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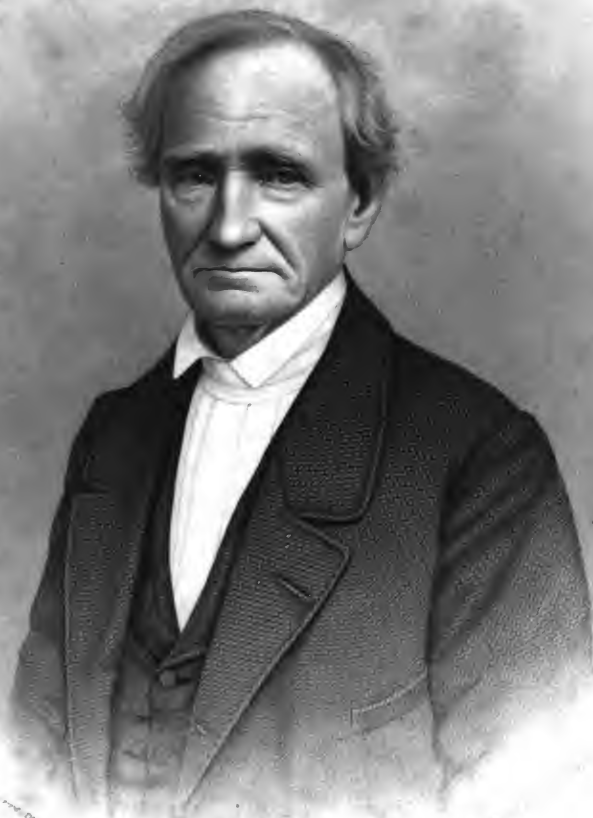
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Philip Brown

BORN IN BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

EX-GOVERNOR OF MICHIGAN

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Venerable Fraternity

OF

THE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

OF THE

STATE OF FLORIDA:

AT THE

Grand Communications, from its Organization, A. D. 1840,
to 1859, inclusive.

NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED BY J. B. FLEMING.
1859.



W. H. H. H.

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Freemasons. Florida

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MSS. PREPARED AND REVIEWED
BY
BROTHER JOHN W. LEONARD, P. M.,
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

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1830-59

BROTHER THOMAS HOLMAN, PRINTER,
Corner of Centre and White Streets, New York.

TO THE

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD,

GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA,

Who, by his high Masonic attainments and untiring devotion, as well as by the influence of his many private virtues, has contributed more towards the advancement of the cause of FREEMASONRY IN FLORIDA, and elevating it to its present high standard, than any other man now living in this State, this history of the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge,

Is FRATERNALLY DEDICATED,

By his Friend and Brother,

THOMAS BROWN,

Chairman of the Committee of Compilation.

147615

P R E F A C E .

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, in the year 1855, a resolution was passed, appointing M. W. P. G. M. Bro. Thomas Douglas to collate and prepare a History of Freemasonry in Florida, the accomplishment of which was arrested by his lamented death soon after. No notes or evidences of preparation for the work were found among his papers. Nothing more was done in the matter until the session of 1858, when the following action was taken on it:

"On motion, Bros. Brown, Ives, and Hayward were appointed a committee to prepare, and have printed and bound, the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, from its creation to the present communication, inclusive, the same having been ordered by the Grand Lodge. The number of copies to be fixed by the committee."

Other engagements having prevented his colleagues from performing any portion of the duties assigned to the committee, the whole of the labor devolved on the Chairman; who, after much pains, procured a complete series of the Proceedings, from the organization of the Grand Lodge of Florida, in 1830, to 1859, inclusive. The destruction of the Masonic Hall in Tallahassee, by a severe gale in 1850, through which a large portion of the Records of the Grand Lodge was lost, added much to his labors. The first Book of Constitutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Florida is lost, and we are not certain that the warrants for Washington Lodge and Harmony Lodge were obtained from the Grand Lodges of Tennessee and Georgia—as the copies of the letters returning the warrants, after the organization of the Grand Lodge of Florida, were, with other valuable correspondence, destroyed.

The compiler of this work is indebted to his esteemed friend, R. W. Brother Gad Humphreys, of St. Augustine, P. D. G. M., for the information in regard to the history of Masonry in Florida, prior to the cession by Spain of the Floridas to the United States.

Also to W. Brother John W. Leonard, of New York, who revised the manuscript for the printer, and prepared the elaborate index for the work, which renders it, as a book of reference, doubly valuable.

INTRODUCTION.

At the period of the cession by Spain of the Floridas to the United States, it does not appear that there was any organized body of Freemasons in either of the Provinces of East and West Florida.

From a "Sketch of the history of Masonry in East Florida," furnished to the committee by our venerable brother and enlightened Mason, R. W. P. D. G. M. Col. Gad Humphreys, of the city of St. Augustine, it appears that the first Lodge of Ancient York Masons organized in that "Ancient City," or in any other portion of East Florida, was under a warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia, about the year 1806, to St. Fernando Lodge, of which W. Samuel Betts was first Master. But we can obtain no certain information on the subject from the records of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, as a part of the archives of that Grand Lodge, from 1805 to 1817, were destroyed by the great fire which occurred in the city of Savannah about the year 1818. Bro. Rose, the R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, says, in a letter to Bro. Humphreys, "I find in an Index, the name of a Lodge—St. Fernando—which I cannot locate, except in St. Augustine." And this, doubtless, was the Lodge warranted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia in East Florida. This Lodge worked, and made Masons until about the year 1811, when it was suppressed by a mandate of the Spanish Government. Bro. Segul, a native of the city of St. Augustine, and now a citizen of Texas, in a letter to Bro. Humphreys, speaking of this Lodge says, "It sticks in my memory, that it was instituted about two years before my initiation, which took place in 1808, and that its warrant was derived from the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and I think Samuel Betts was its first Master." Bro. Humphreys in his sketch says, "This Lodge was in 1811, according to the recollections of Bro. Antonio Alvarez, now a citizen of St. Augustine, and King of Florida R. A. Chapter No. 2, a very correct chronicler, and therefore safe authority, by a mandate of the Spanish Government, which ordered the suppression of all Masonic bodies within its dominions, utterly broken up; and until the change of flags, such was the jealous watchfulness of the Government officials, no regular organization was attempted, although a few faithful spirits cherished in their hearts a love of the sublime institution, and in the year 1820, obtained from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina a warrant for a Lodge to work in the city of St. Augustine, under the style of "*Floridian Virtus* Lodge, No. 28," of which Bro. John Geiger was first Master. But such was the still prevailing hostility of the Roman Catholic authorities, and from other causes, its existence was not long preserved. "The next Lodge of which we have any knowledge, was a Mark Master's Lodge, called 'Union Mark Lodge,' established in St. Augustine in 1822, under a warrant from the Hon. DeWitt Clinton, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, a copy of which is published herewith; the original is in the archives of St. John's Lodge, No. 12. This Masonic body was, as it appears from oral, but reliable testimony, organized, but worked for

a short time only, owing perhaps to the fact that there was no symbolic Lodge in existence in that city, *to furnish it with work*; and to the further fact that Masonry, at that time, had not recovered from the effects of Roman Catholic prejudices and influences. In 1824, another application was made to the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, by the constitutional number of Master Masons, for a warrant to establish a Lodge entitled 'Esperanza Lodge,' at St. Augustine. This Lodge, which worked in the Spanish language, became extinct after one year, by the removal of the greater portion of its members to Havana. Its warrant was duly surrendered to the Grand Lodge whence it was received. From this time there was no organized Masonry in East Florida, until the institution of the Grand Lodge of Florida."

"The Jewels of the first Lodge spoken of in this sketch, were turned over to, and used by the succeeding Lodge in this city, until the dissolution of 'Esperanza Lodge,' when they were taken possession of by Peter Berret, Esq., who was then Treasurer of that Lodge, but now, under Romish dictation, a seceding Mason, and who still holds them. This gentleman, fairly enough, offers to surrender them to the Grand Lodge, or by consent of the Grand Lodge, to the St. John's Lodge, No. 12, and which Lodge, from its location, is entitled to receive and preserve them, as interesting relics of the Order, which here, during Spanish, or rather Romish domination, was downtrodden, and even now, in the *enlightened nineteenth century*, has to contend with the senseless and insane fulminations of foreign born Popish bigotry and intolerance, not less objectionable and offensive, although possessing in this happy country less power to do harm, than that which forced the Pilgrim fathers into exile, that they might enjoy the same right of the freedom of conscience, and which same bigotry and intolerance, at an earlier period, lost to besotted France some eight hundred thousand of her Huguenot population, a population that so far as their proficiency in the essential arts, and the progress of practical industrial improvements were concerned, form the true *élite* of the land."

We will here give a copy from the original warrant, or authority, "to form, open, and hold a Mark Master Mason's Lodge in the city of St. Augustine," which we think will be regarded at this day as a Masonic curiosity. Before the institution of Royal Arch Masonry as now organized in the United States, the right to Mark and Pass, was sometimes given to Blue Lodges, by the Grand Lodge; but that the General Grand High Priest, of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, should assume the authority to organize an Independent "Mark Master Mason Lodge," is beyond our conception of General Grand powers.

By DR WITT CLINTON, *Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America*:

I do hereby authorize and empower our worthy Brothers S. Streeter, Edw Van Even, Daniel S. Gardner, William Robertson, C. Zully, Ant. J. Triay, George Murray, Caleb Luddington, James Stewart, James L. Tingle, and their associates, to form, open, and hold a Mark Master Mason's Lodge in the city of St. Augustine, in East Florida, to be named Union Mark Lodge, until the next meeting of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and I do hereby appoint Squire Streeter to be the first Master, Edw Van Even to be the first Senior Warden, and Daniel S. Gardner to be the first Junior Warden.

The said Lodge to be invested with all the rights and powers, and subject to all the duties of a Mark Master Mason's Lodge.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at the city of Albany, this 25th day [L. S.] of March, Anno Domini, 1822.

(Signed)

DR WITT CLINTON.

I do hereby authorize ——— to install the officers of the said Lodge.

DR WITT CLINTON.

We have endeavored to ascertain if there were any organized body of Masons in the city of Pensacola, in West Florida, before the cession to the United States, but all our efforts to obtain any information on the subject, have failed. We think it highly probable, however, that there were Lodges of Masons working in that city while it was under Spanish authority, but if so, they, of course, met the same fate with their brethren of St. Augustine. Immediately succeeding the organization of the Territorial Government of Florida, about the year 1826, a warrant was obtained from the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama, for Jackson Lodge in the city of Tallahassee, and soon after warrants were granted by the Grand Lodges of Tennessee and Georgia,* we believe, for Washington Lodge, in the town of Quincy, in Gadsden county, and for Harmony Lodge, in the town of Mariana, in Jackson county. At the regular monthly meeting in May, 1830, a resolution was adopted by Jackson Lodge, inviting the members of Washington and Harmony Lodges to meet by delegate the delegates of Jackson Lodge, at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, on the first Monday in July following, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge for the Territory of Florida, and accordingly the convention did meet, and adopted a constitution and organized the Grand Lodge. But many of the records were lost.

* It is not certain that these were the Grand Lodges from which the warrants for Washington and Harmony Lodges were obtained, as the letters returning the warrants have been lost in consequence of a gale which destroyed the Masonic Hall about the year 1850.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF A

Convention of Free and Accepted Ancient Work Masons,

OF THE TERRITORY OF FLORIDA,

Held at the City of Tallahassee, July 5th, 1830.

A MEETING of delegates from all the Lodges in Florida, was convened at ten o'clock, A. M., at the Masonic Hall of Jackson Lodge, No. 23, on Monday, the fifth day of July, A. L. 5830, A. D. 1830, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge for the Territory of Florida.

The meeting was formed by nominating Brother John P. Duval, the oldest Past Master present, to the chair, and appointing Brother Thomas Munroe, Secretary.

It appearing that delegates from only two Lodges were in attendance, the meeting adjourned until one o'clock this afternoon.

ONE o'clock, P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and the roll being called the following delegates answered, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 23, of Tallahassee—Brothers Isham Green Searcy, David M. Sheffield, John Laudaman, William P. Dural, Robert Butler, Richard K. Call, Romeo Lewis, Lewis Willis, Thomas Munroe, Richard C. Allen, John P. Duval, Robert W. Williams, Justinian F. Davis, James Hughes, James Bryan, Jr., Burr H. Duval, Thomas Brown, James G. Ringgold, and William G. Burgess.

From Washington Lodge, No. 1, of Quincy, Gadsden county—Brothers Henry Gee, John Lines, Isaac Nathans, Francis A. Cash, and James A. Dunlap.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 2, of Mariana, Jackson county—Brothers James W. Exum, William J. Watson, and Jacob Robinson.

Three Lodges being represented,

On motion, the Convention was duly organized by the election of Brother John P. Duval, President, and Brother Thomas Munroe, Secretary.

The Secretary reported that credentials, entitled to credence, had been handed in to him by the delegates from Jackson Lodge, No. 23, Washington Lodge, No. 1, and Harmony Lodge, No. 2.

Whereupon, it was, on motion,

"Resolved, That it is expedient, for the convenience, interest, and prosperity of the Craft in the Territory of Florida, that a Grand Lodge be constituted."

"Resolved, That three regularly warranted Lodges of Ancient York Masons are fully represented in this Convention; and, according to precedent and authority, they have a right to establish a Grand Lodge for the Territory of Florida."

On motion, it was

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft a form of Constitution for the Grand Lodge of Florida, and suitable by-laws and rules for the government of the same."

And, thereupon, the following committee was appointed: Brothers Robinson, Searcy, Gee, Brown, Exum, Watson, Nathans, Lines, Butler, Call, and the President of the Convention.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, July 6, ten o'clock.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Brother Robinson, from the committee on the Constitution, reported that the committee had prepared the form of a Constitution; which was submitted, read, and considered; and, after some amendments, adopted. A committee, consisting of Brothers Brown, Searcy, and Dunlap, was appointed to cause the same to be enrolled, certified, and signed by the President of the Convention.

The Convention then adjourned to meet this evening, at three o'clock, for the purpose of electing the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

THREE o'clock, P. M.

FIRST ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and, on motion, proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers, as provided by the Constitution, to serve until the regular Grand communication; and, upon counting the ballots, the following brethren were declared duly elected:

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Master.

R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN LINES, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. THOMAS MUNROE, Grand Secretary.

W. PETER W. GAUTIER, Sen., Grand Chaplain.

W. THOMAS J. HOLMES, Grand Lecturer.

Brother FRANCIS A. CASH, Grand Senior Deacon.

Brother THOMAS BROWN, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Master-elect appointed the following officers :

Brothers ISAAC NATHANS and D. M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Marshals.

Brothers JOSIAH EDSON and JOHN LAUDAMAN, Grand Stewards.

Brother JAMES BRYAN, Jr., Grand Tyler.

INSTALLATION OF THE GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Officers were then installed according to ancient usage.

A Grand Lodge was then opened in AMPLE FORM.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Master.

R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN LINES, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. THOMAS MUNROE, Grand Secretary.

W. FRANCIS A. CASH, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brothers ISAAC NATHANS and D. M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Marshals.

Brothers JOSIAH EDSON and JOHN LAUDAMAN, Grand Stewards.

Brother JAMES BRYAN, Jr., Grand Tyler.

And a number of visiting brethren.

On motion of Brother Brown, the rules and by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Alabama were adopted, so far as they are applicable to the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Brother Cash, Brothers Searcy, Dunlap, Call, Butler, and Duval, were appointed a committee to prepare rules and a code of by-laws for the government of this Grand Lodge, to be reported to the next communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Brother Dunlap, it was

“Ordered, That warrants be issued to the subordinate Lodges, represented in the Convention which organized the Grand Lodge of Florida, to be numbered as follows : Jackson Lodge of Tallahassee, No. 1 ; Washington Lodge of Quincy, No. 2 ; Harmony Lodge of Mariana, No. 3 ; and, on the receipt of said warrants, the Worshipful Masters of said Lodges respectively, be required to return to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, their original warrants, to be returned by him to the several Grand Lodges from which they were obtained, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this Grand Lodge cause a letter to be addressed to each of the Grand Lodges from which the warrants were obtained, informing them of the organization of the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida, and fraternal recognition and correspondence.”

On motion of Brother Cash, it was

“Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure a Grand Lodge seal, with suitable devices, and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the amount of the same.”

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM, to meet again on the second Monday after the annual session of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, as provided by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

And, on motion, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN P. DUVAL, *President*.

THOMAS MUNROE, *Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 10, 1831.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, *Grand Master*.

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the tenth day of January, A. L. 5831, A. D. 1831.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, *Grand Master*.

R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, *Deputy Grand Master*.

R. W. JOHN LINES, *Grand Senior Warden*.

R. W. HENRY GEE, *Grand Junior Warden*.

R. W. FRANCIS A. CASH, *Grand Treasurer pro tem*.

R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary pro tem*.

W. JAMES A. DUNLAP, *Grand Senior Deacon pro tem*.

W. THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Junior Deacon*.

Brother JAMES BRYAN, Jr., *Grand Tyler*.

And a due representation of subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM and with prayer.

The Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brothers Searcy, Exum, and Gee, a committee on Returns and Credentials ; who reported that they had examined the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Brother W. G. Burgess, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Brother F. A. Cash, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Brother J. P. Booth, Representative.

From Farmers' Lodge, U. D., No. 4—Brother J. F. Wachob, W. M.

All of which they find correct and in proper form.

Brother Wachob presented the by-laws and proceedings of Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, U. D.

Whereupon, the Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brothers Searcy and Booth a committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, to which the returns from Farmers' Lodge, U. D., were referred.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master communicated to the Grand

Lodge, that he had issued to Jackson Lodge, No. 1, of the city of Tallahassee; Washington Lodge, No. 2, of the town of Quincy; and to Harmony Lodge, No. 3, of the town of Mariana, warrants; and that he had received from said Lodges the warrants under which they had been working, which he had returned to the Grand Lodges from whence they had been received, with a letter addressed to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of each Grand Lodge respectively, informing him of the organization of the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida, and of the causes which rendered such organization expedient and necessary for the convenience and prosperity of the Craft in this Territory, and asking fraternal recognition and correspondence; and that he had also granted a dispensation to Brothers Joseph F. Wachob, first Worshipful Master; Charles Sewel, first Senior Warden; and George C. Hodge, first Junior Warden; and the requisite number of Master Masons, to open and work a Lodge in the town of Webbville, in the county of Jackson, under the name of Farmers' Lodge, No. 4. Copies of the Grand Master's letters were then read and ordered to be filed in the archives of the Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was

"Resolved, That all Master Masons, in good standing, be invited to visit the Grand Lodge during its session."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, to meet again to-morrow afternoon, at three o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 11, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and a number of visiting brethren.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, by ballot, as provided in the Constitution, when the following brethren were declared duly elected:

M. W. JOHN P. DOVAL, Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT BURTON, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. PETER W. GAUTIER, Sen., Grand Chaplain.
R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Lecturer.
W. RICHARD K. CALL, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. FRANCIS A. CASH, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments:

Brothers JOHN P. BOOTH and JAMES A. DUNLAP, Grand Marshals.
Brothers JOSIAH EDSON and JOHN LAUDAMAN, Grand Stewards.
Brother JAMES BRYAN, Jr., Grand Tyler.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws reported that they had examined the by-laws and proceedings of Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, and approved the same, and recommended that a warrant be granted to said Lodge ; and, on motion, a warrant was granted.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master reported that, by request, he attended a meeting of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, at their lodge-room, in the town of Mariana, on the twenty-seventh of December last, and installed the officers-elect of that Lodge, in accordance with the ancient usages of the Order.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until this evening, at seven o'clock.

TUESDAY Evening, seven o'clock.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and visiting brethren.

On motion, the Grand Officers-elect were duly installed, according to ancient usage.

Brother P. W. Gautier, Jr., presented the proceedings of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, in the case of the trial and expulsion, by said Lodge, of James S. Murphey, a Master Mason and member of said Lodge ; which were read and considered ; and upon a vote taken the same were confirmed, and the said James S. Murphey was declared expelled from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

The committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge, to prepare a code of by-laws and rules for the government of the Grand Lodge, reported that they had performed that duty, and presented the draft of a code of by-laws and rules, which were read, and considered, and adopted.

And after the adoption of sundry resolutions and orders, for the settlement and payment of claims and accounts against the Grand Lodge, and for the payment of the Grand Secretary and Grand Tyler for their services, there appearing no further business before it, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE SOLEMN FORM, in peace and harmony.

J. P. DUVAL, *Grand Master.*

ISHAM G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 8th, 1832.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, *Grand Master.*

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the ninth day of January, A. L. 5832, A. D. 1832.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. DAVID M. SHEPFIELD, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem.*

R. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.

W. JAMES J. PITTMAN, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem.*

W. FRANCIS A. CASH, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother JAMES BRYAN, Jr., Grand Tyler.

And a number of members, representatives, and visiting brethren.

The Grand Secretary having reported that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM, and with prayer, by the Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master then appointed Brothers Booth and Lewis a committee on Returns and Credentials, who reported that they had had before them the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, viz. :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Isham G. Searcy, Worshipful Master ; Lewis Willis, Senior Warden ; Leslie A. Thompson, Junior Warden ; Richard C. Allen, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Henry Gee, Worshipful Master ; Godfrey Stephens, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—James W. Exum, Worshipful Master ; John P. Booth, Senior Warden ; James J. Pittman, Representative.

From Farmers' Lodge, No. 4—Jos. F. Wachob, Worshipful Master. Which they had examined and found correct, and in prescribed form.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master made the following report :

"TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA :

"I beg leave to report, that, by request, I visited the following Lodges, viz. :—Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; and Farmers' Lodge, No. 4 ; and installed their officers elected for the ensuing year.

"Respectfully submitted,

"JAMES W. EXUM, *Deputy Grand Master.*"

Bro. Lewis offered the following, which was adopted :

"WHEREAS, There has not been sufficient time for all the subordinate Lodges to procure the necessary jewels for the officers of their Lodges,

"Be it Resolved, That the provision of the by-laws, which requires that officers of Lodges shall appear in the Grand Lodge with their appropriate jewels, be suspended during the present session of the Grand Lodge."

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were presented, and referred to a committee, consisting of Brothers Brown, Gee, and Cash.

The Grand Secretary reported that he had prepared and sent the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, to the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, and to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and had received the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the District of Columbia, Georgia, Alabama, and Indiana.

Brother Laudaman announced to the Grand Lodge the death of R. W. John Lines, Grand Senior Warden of this Grand Lodge, and Brother James A. Dunlap, a member of this Grand Lodge, and offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

"Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days, as a testimonial to the memory, and regret for the death of our worthy Brothers John Lines and James A. Dunlap."

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock this evening.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers, members, representatives, and visitors present, as in the forenoon.

Brother Brown, from the committee on the Accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, made the following

Report: "The Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, have performed that duty, and beg leave to report that they find them correct and properly supported by vouchers.

"THOMAS BROWN, *Chairman.*"

On motion, it was

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of the Grand Officers to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock."

After the transaction of some other business, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 10, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.
R. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
W. RICHARD K. CALL, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. FRANCIS A. CASH, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother CHRISTOPHER C. FLETCHER, Grand Tyler *pro tem*.

And a number of members and brethren.

Brother Benjamin Clements and Brother Jesse B. Clements, visiting brethren from Tennessee, were received, and invited to seats in the Grand Lodge.

After the consideration of some matters pending before the Grand Lodge, on motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and after successive balloting, the following brothers were respectively proclaimed duly elected Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Florida, for the next ensuing twelve months, viz. :

M. W. ROBERT BUTLER, Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN P. BOOTH, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. GODFREY STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
R. Rev. ROBERT B. KER, Grand Chaplain.
W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Lecturer.
W. JAMES J. PITTMAN, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

Brothers RICHARD C. PARISH, and SAMUEL H. DUVAL, Grand Marshals.
Brothers JOHN LAUDAMAN, and JOSIAH EDSON, Grand Stewards.
Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the installation of the Grand Officers-elect, take place to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers-elect, in ANCIENT SOLEMN FORM.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock this evening.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. GODFREY STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Secretary.

R. W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Lecturer.

R. Rev. ROBERT B. KER, Grand Chaplain.

W. JAMES J. PITTMAN, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. LEWIS C. WILLIS, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brothers RICHARD C. PARISH, and SAMUEL H. DUVAL, Grand Marshals.

Brothers JOHN LAUDAMAN, and JOSIAH EDSON, Grand Stewards.

Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

And a number of brethren, members, and visitors.

Brother Searcy offered the following preamble and resolution, which were unanimously adopted :

" WHEREAS, Our Worthy Brother, M. W. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, is about to leave us for a time, as a mark of our respect for him as a man and a Mason, and our sense of his services to the Fraternity,

" Resolved, That a Past Grand Master's jewel, with appropriate devices, be procured and presented to him by this Grand Lodge."

Whereupon the Grand Secretary was directed to procure a suitable Past Grand Master's jewel, and present it to M. W. Past Grand Master John P. Duval, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, and that he draw on the Grand Treasurer for the cost of procuring the same.

The following resolution, presented by Brother Lewis, was adopted :

" Resolved, That a committee be appointed to procure suitable jewels and clothing for the officers and members of this Grand Lodge."

Whereupon Brothers Lewis and Sheffield were appointed said committee, with authority to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the cost of the same.

Ordered, That the following sums be allowed and paid by the Grand Treasurer :

To the Grand Secretary, for his services, the sum of fifty dollars, and one dollar and six cents expended by him for letter postage.

To the Grand Tyler, two dollars a day for his services.

To the Grand Steward, Brother John Laudaman, the sum of ten dollars, expended by him for the use of the Grand Lodge. Also, the sum of thirteen dollars and fifty cents, expended by him on account of curtains for the lodge-room.

There appearing no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM until the next Grand annual communication.

JAMES W. EXUM, *Deputy Grand Master.*

ISHAM G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 14, 1833.

M. W. ROBERT BUTLER, *Grand Master*.

THE Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida, held its annual communication in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the fourteenth day of January, A. L. 5833, A. D. 1833.

Present :

R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. D. L. KENAN, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. GODFREY STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. JUSTINIAN F. DAVIS, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.

R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Secretary.

R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Lecturer *pro tem*.

R. Rev. R. B. KER, Grand Chaplain.

W. PETER W. GAUTIER, Jr., Grand Senior Deacon.

W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother JOSIAH EDSON, Grand Steward.

Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

The following brethren handed to the Grand Secretary the returns and credentials of the officers, proxies, and representatives of subordinate Lodges, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—J. F. Davis, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—D. F. Kenan, Worshipful Master ; Godfrey Stephens, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—James W. Exum, Worshipful Master ; Peter W. Gautier, Jr., Representative.

There appearing a constitutional representation of subordinate Lodges present, the Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM, and with prayer by the Reverend Grand Chaplain. The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Brothers Brown, Davis, and Gautier, a committee on Returns and Credentials, who reported that they had received from the Grand Secretary the returns and credentials from Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Washington Lodge, No. 2 ; and Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; which

they had examined and found to be correct, with full payment of all dues to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Brother Searcy, it was

"Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing, visitors, and residents, be invited to take seats in the Grand Lodge during its session."

The Grand Master then appointed the following standing committees, viz.:

- On Accounts—Brothers BROWN, BOOTH, and STEPHENS.
- On Visiting Brethren—Brothers DAVIS and GAUTIER.
- On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers GAUTIER and BROWN.
- On Unfinished Business—Brothers KENAN and DAVIS.
- On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers SEARCY, BOOTH, and KENAN.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, to meet again to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 15, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, same as yesterday. Also, many members and visiting brethren.

Brother Brown, from the committee on Accounts, reported that the committee had examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary for the last fiscal year, and found them correct and supported by proper vouchers; and also an account of the Grand Secretary for payments made on account of postage, which they have approved, and recommend that the same be paid; which report was read and adopted.

The Grand Secretary made a report relative to delinquent Lodges, which was read and laid on the table.

On motion of Brother Booth, it was

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will, at three o'clock this evening, proceed to the election of the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge for the ensuing year."

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until three o'clock this evening.

TUESDAY, January 15, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, same as in the forenoon. And a number of members and visiting brethren.

M. W. Brother John A. Cameron, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, was introduced and received with grand honors, and conducted to the East. The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and the

following brethren, after ballots severally taken, were respectively proclaimed duly elected :

M. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN P. BOOTH, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. GODFREY STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Lecturer.
R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
W. PETER W. GAUTIER, Jr., Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JUSTINIAN F. DAVIS, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Grand Master made the following appointments :

Brothers DANIEL L. KENAN and LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Marshals.
Brothers JOSIAH EDSON and JAMES HUGHES, Grand Stewards.
Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

On the nomination of Brother Searcy, our distinguished fellow-citizen and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, M. W. Brother General Andrew Jackson was unanimously elected an honorary member of this Grand Lodge ; and,

On further motion of Brother Searcy, a committee was appointed to address a letter to Brother Andrew Jackson, informing him of his unanimous election as honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Florida, with copies of its proceedings from its organization ; and Brothers Searcy, Sheffield, and Brown, were appointed said committee.

On motion, it was

“Resolved, That the Grand Lodge meet this evening, at six o'clock, for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers.”

The Craft were then called off from labor to refreshment, until six o'clock this evening.

TUESDAY, January 15, six o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Present, Grand Officers as in the forenoon, with many members and visitors.

The ceremony of the installation of the Grand Officers-elect of the Grand Lodge was then performed in SOLEMN FORM, according to ancient usage.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was read and received :

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that in the discharge of the duties assigned to them, they have particularly examined the communications from the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Georgia, Virginia, Missouri, Louisiana, Indiana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Rhode Island, and Kentucky, by which they find, to their great satisfaction, that the present flourishing state of Masonry is such as should be a source of pride and gratification to every member of our benevolent society.”

"And, although in some parts of our happy country, an unhallowed opposition to our institution has been raised, yet in no instance have our brethren been deficient in zeal, or unable to combat successfully against this misguided and fanatical crusade; and should this monster of political fanaticism ever visit our Territory—which, may the Almighty Architect forbid!—this Grand Lodge will be prepared to maintain firmly, but temperately, the principles of our institution, and to defend our rights, as Masons and as men, against the rude assaults of our enemies, from whatever source they may be directed.

"Your committee feel authorized in saying that, with the moral beauty and excellency of her Masonic principles, Freemasonry needs no other support than such as will necessarily result from a faithful observance and vigilant discharge of the duties her doctrines inculcate, and to discharge those duties faithfully and firmly is a debt which every member owes to the Fraternity, to his God, to his country, and to himself.

"Your committee beg leave further to recommend a tender of fraternal regards and continuance of correspondence.

"ISHAM G. SEARCY, }
"JOHN P. BOOTH, } *Committee.*
"DANIEL L. KENAN, }

The following sums were allowed and ordered to be paid: To Jackson Lodge, No. 1, the sum of twenty-five dollars, for improvements upon the Masonic Hall. To the Grand Secretary, the sum of fifty dollars, for his services. To the Grand Tyler, the sum of four dollars, for his services; and two dollars and thirty-eight cents for fuel.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM, in peace and harmony, until the next regular annual communication.

JAMES W. EXUM, *Grand Master.*

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 13, 1834.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday the thirteenth day of January, A. L. 5834, A. D. 1834.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JAMES W. EXUM, *Grand Master*.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, *Deputy Grand Master*.
R. W. HENRY GEE, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. ISAAC NATHANS, *Grand Junior Warden pro tem*.
R. Rev. JESSE COE, *Grand Chaplain*.
R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, *Grand Treasurer*.
R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary*.
W. PETER W. GAUTIER, Jr., *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. JUSTINIAN F. DAVIS, *Grand Junior Deacon*.
Brother JOSIAH EDSON, *Grand Steward*.
Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, *Grand Tyler*.

With sundry members, representatives, proxies, and visitors, from subordinate Lodges. The Grand Lodge was then opened in AMPLE FORM in the third degree of Masonry. The Throne of Grace was then addressed in a solemn, fervent, and appropriate prayer.

The following brethren then handed in their credentials as officers, representatives, and proxies, to the Grand Secretary, who reported the same to be correct and authentic.

Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Romeo Lewis, *Worshipful Master* ; Justinian F. Davis, *Representative*.

Washington Lodge, No. 2—Jesse Coe, *Worshipful Master* ; Richard J. Blount, *Junior Warden* ; Isaac Nathans, *Representative*.

Harmony Lodge, No. 3—James W. Exum, *Worshipful Master* ; Peter W. Gautier, *Representative*.

The annual returns for said Lodges, were handed to the Grand Sec-

retary by the proper officers ; also the amount due from each Lodge, whereupon the said brothers took their seats in the Grand Lodge.

Brother Searcy introduced the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That all worthy Master Masons, visitors, and residents, be invited to take a seat in the Grand Lodge during its present session."

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing committees, viz.:

On the State of the Grand Lodge—Brothers GEE and COE.

On Finance—Brothers DAVIS and GAUTIER.

On Returns—Brothers COE and BROWN.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers GEE, DAVIS, and THOMPSON.

On By-Laws—Brothers LEWIS and SEARCY.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers NATHANS, GAUTIER, and EDSON.

Brother Lewis introduced the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That the election for officers of this Grand Lodge, be held to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock."

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present as before. Also, Brothers Richard J. Blount, Alfred A. Fisher, James Bryan, Richard Lloyd, John Love, Joseph Urey, and visiting brethren.

The Grand Lodge was then called from refreshment to labor.

Brother Gautier made the following report, which was read, received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on record :

"The committee on Finance, to whom was referred the account current for the past year, of Brother Isham G. Searcy, Grand Secretary, and Brother Romeo Lewis, Grand Treasurer, report, that they have examined the same, and find all the accounts correct, and supported by proper vouchers."

"PETER W. GAUTIER, JR., } Committee."
"JUSTINIAN F. DAVIS, }

Brother Coe made the following report, which was adopted, and ordered to be entered on record :

"The committee appointed by the Grand Lodge to examine the returns of the subordinate Lodges, represented in this Grand Lodge, have performed that duty, and beg leave to report, that the returns from Jackson Lodge, No. 1, Washington Lodge, No. 2, and Harmony Lodge, No. 3, are correct, and made according to form."

"JESSE COE, Chairman."

Brother Lewis introduced the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That so much of Section 1st of the laws and regulations as requires each member to wear the jewel which he is entitled to wear in his own Lodge, or the jewel of the officer whom he represents, be suspended during the present session of the Grand Lodge."

On motion, the Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, January 14, ten o'clock, A. M.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge was then called from refreshment to labor. Brother Robert Butler, Past Grand Master, who was seriously indisposed and could not attend our last Grand annual communication, appeared and took his proper station.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, which was adopted :

"Agreeable to the 19th Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, the Grand Secretary reports, that all the subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of the same, have made their returns, and paid their dues regularly each year, with the exception of Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, which has not made a return or paid its dues for two years. Which is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

"ISHAM G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*"

Brother Coe made the following report, which was adopted :

"The committee on Returns have had under consideration the papers referred to them, relative to Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, and after due examination of the same, do report that the 19th Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge points out the course to be pursued, and they recommend that that alone should be the course adopted.

"JESSE COE, *Chairman.*"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, that they have discharged the duty assigned them, having particularly examined the communications from our sister Grand Lodges of the United States, viz. :—From the Grand Lodges of the States of Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, and the District of Columbia, and from the General Grand Chapter, and the General Grand Encampment of the United States. Your committee find nothing in the communications that require special notice at this time. They beg leave to submit the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a sufficient number of circulars containing the names of the officers of the Grand Lodge, with their proper signatures, and forward one of said circulars, together with a printed copy of the minutes, to each of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and all others in communication with this Grand Lodge. All of which is respectfully submitted.

"J. F. DAVIS, }
"H. GEE, } *Committee.*"

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers to serve for the present year ; they were balloted for separately, and

on counting the votes, it appeared that the following brothers were duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. I. G. SEARCY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. ISAAC NATHANS, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. ROMEO LEWIS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
R. Rev. LEANDER KEE, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. JOSEPH UREY, Grand Lecturer.
W. J. F. DAVIS, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JOSIAH EDSON, Grand Junior Deacon.

The M. W. Grand Master-elect, then appointed

Brothers RICHARD J. BLOUNT and JOEL B. CLEMENTS, Grand Marshals.
Brothers JAMES BRYAN and ALFRED A. FISHER, Grand Stewards.
Brother HEEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

The Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until three o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 14, three o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present, as in the forenoon.

The Grand Lodge was then called from refreshment to labor.

Brother Gee introduced the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the late Grand Secretary be appointed to examine and adjust all accounts against the Grand Lodge during the recess, and that he be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the amounts owing, conformable to the Constitution, and that he make report of the same to the next annual communication."

Brother Coe, from the committee on the State of the Grand Lodge, made the following report :

"The committee on the State of the Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that it is in a flourishing and prosperous condition. The beauty and sublimity of its precepts, and excellence of the moral examples inculcated by the Order, will insure a continuance of its prosperity.

"JESSE COE, *Chairman*."

Brother Lewis introduced the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary examine the proceedings of the various Grand Lodges of the United States, received by this Grand Lodge, and make out and publish the names of those who appear to have been expelled for unmasonic conduct during the past year."

Ordered that the sum of two dollars and twenty-five cents, be paid to the Grand Secretary, for money expended in postage for the Grand Lodge.

Ordered that the sum of fifty dollars be paid to the Grand Secretary, for his services for the year 1833.

Ordered that the sum of four dollars be paid to Brother H. Myers, for his services as Grand Tyler at the present session.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the officers-elect, which was done with the usual forms, ceremonies, and solemnities.

There appearing to be no further business before the Grand Lodge, Brother Lewis moved that the same be now closed.

Brother Grand Chaplain addressed the Throne of Grace in a solemn fervent, and appropriate prayer. The Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM, until the next annual communication.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary*.

MEETINGS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Meets at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on the first and third Saturdays in each month, and on the anniversaries of St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist.

Names of officers :

ROMEO LEWIS, Worshipful Master.
JAMES BRYAN, Senior Warden.
ALFRED A. FISHER, Junior Warden.
J. F. DAVIS, Treasurer.

THOMAS BROWN, Secretary.
C. FLETCHER, Senior Deacon.
F. BEZEAU, Junior Deacon.
H. MYERS, Tyler.

Number of members, 23.

Washington Lodge, No. 2—Meets in the town of Quincy, on the first Saturday in each month, and on the anniversaries of St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist.

Names of officers :

JESSE COE, Worshipful Master.
ROBERT L. HARRISON, Senior Warden.
RICHARD J. BLOUNT, Junior Warden.
JAMES GIBSON, Treasurer.

JAMES L. SWEET, Secretary.
RICHARD WILKINSON, Senior Deacon.
JAMES LANIER, Junior Deacon.
WILLIAM DICKSON, Tyler.

Number of members, 28.

Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Meets at the Masonic Hall, in the town of Mariana, on the first Wednesday in every month, and on the anniversaries of St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist.

Names of officers :

JAMES W. EKUM, Worshipful Master.
JAMES J. PITTMAN, Senior Warden.
JOEL B. CLEMENTS, Junior Warden.
JAMES P. LOVE, Treasurer.

R. B. KER, Secretary.
F. L. MING, Senior Deacon.
HENRY N. NOLAND, Junior Deacon.
THOMAS P. GODFREY, Tyler.

Number of members, 30.

Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, Webbville—No return.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held at Tallahassee, January 12, 1835.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

An annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida was held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday the 12th day of January, A. L. 5835, A. D. 1835.

Present :

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.
R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, *Deputy Grand Master*.
R. W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. ISAAC NATHANS, *Grand Junior Warden*.
R. W. JAMES GIBSON, *Grand Treasurer pro tem*.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.
W. JUSTINIAN F. DAVIS, *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. JOSIAH EDSON, *Grand Junior Deacon*.

Brother CHRISTOPHER FLETCHER, *Grand Tyler pro tem*.

With a due representation of Lodges.

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—David M. Sheffield, *Worshipful Master* ; James Bryan, Jr., *Representative*.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—James Gibson, *Representative*.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Geo. S. Hawkins, *Representative*.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM and with prayer.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Munnerlyn and Bryan a committee on Returns and Credentials, who reported that they had examined the returns of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, and Washington Lodge, No. 2, and found them correct and in form. But that the returns from Harmony Lodge, No. 3, were not strictly according to the forms prescribed, but not materially defective, and prayed that they might be received. Whereupon the report was received, and the representatives took their seats.

Brother Searcy offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

“ *Resolved*, That all worthy Master Masons, residents and visitors, be invited to seats in the Grand Lodge during the present session.”

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Finance—Brothers GIBSON and SEARCY.

On the State of the Grand Lodge—Brothers SHEFFIELD and THOMPSON.

On By-Laws—Brothers SHEFFIELD and EDSON.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers DAVIS and SHEFFIELD.

On motion, Brothers Nathans and Westcott were appointed a committee to wait on his Excellency, Brother John H. Eaton, Governor of the Territory of Florida, and invite him to a seat in the Grand Lodge during its session.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock this evening.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon, and the following members and visitors :

Geo. S. Hawkins, Henry Washington, H. Myers, T. J. French, John Enderman, Joseph Moore, John C. Love, Robert Ruddock, Meredith Owens, James D. Westcott, Thomas Douglas, and John B. Comparit, visiting brethren from Zion Lodge No. 3, of the city of Detroit, Michigan Territory.

Brother John H. Eaton, Governor of Florida, was introduced by the special committee appointed for that purpose, into the Grand Lodge, under the usual form and ceremonies, and conducted to the seat provided for him.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Finance, to whom were referred the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, reported that they examined them, and found them correct and supported by proper vouchers, and recommended that they be received and approved.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was received and read :

" Your committee beg leave to report, that they have received from the Grand Secretary the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Virginia, New Jersey, Alabama, Louisiana, Kentucky, Vermont, North Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, New York, Indiana, Tennessee, New Hampshire, and Connecticut. They have had necessarily but a limited time to examine them, but they believe that they contain nothing which requires the special attention of this Grand Lodge at the present time.

" The committee beg leave to submit the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a sufficient number of blank circulars, to be filled by the proper signature of the names of the Grand Officers, and forwarded to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at the present session.

" All of which is respectfully submitted.

" I. G. SEARCY,
" ISAAC NATHANS, } *Committee.*"

On motion, the resolution was adopted.

On motion of Brother Nathans, it was

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge do wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days, as a testimonial of their respect for the memory and regret for the death of Brother Dr. Joel B. Clements, a worthy member of the Grand Lodge."

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year ; and upon successive ballots taken, it was proclaimed that the following brothers, respectively, were duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
 R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Deputy Grand Master.
 R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. ISAAC NATHANS, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. REV. LEANDER KER, Grand Chaplain.
 R. W. JOSEPH UREY, Grand Lecturer.
 R. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
 W. GEORGE S. HAWKINS, Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. DAVID M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then made the following appointments :

Brothers CHARLES MUNNORLYN and JAMES J. PITTMAN, Grand Marshals.
 Brothers JAMES BRYAN, JR., and ALFRED A. FISHER, Grand Stewards.
 Brother CHRISTOPHER FLETCHER, Grand Tyler.

On motion, Brother John H. Eaton, Governor of the Territory of Florida, was proposed and unanimously elected an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

JANUARY 13th, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and sundry members and visitors.

The committee on the state of the Grand Lodge, made the following report :

"The committee on the State of the Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and have the honor to report that, so far as they have been advised, Masonry in Florida is in a prosperous condition.

"It is true that, from the unsettled state of our country, by hostile Indian tribes scattered throughout the Territory, we have but few subordinate Lodges ; but they are located in the intelligent communities, are composed of valuable materials, and are working well ; and form a nucleus upon which we may hope in time permanently to establish our Masonic edifice.

"D. M. SHEFFIELD, *Chairman*."

The Grand Officers-elect were duly installed ; and after making the usual orders, there appearing no further business requiring the attention of the Grand Lodge, it was closed in SOLEMN ANCIENT FORM, in peace and harmony.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 11, 1836.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the eleventh day of January, A. L. 5836, A. D. 1836.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES W. EXUM, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. R. B. KEM, Grand Secretary *pro tem*.
W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.
W. T. KENAN, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.
Brother HENRIKIAN MYERS, Grand Tyler *pro tem*.

And a number of members, representatives, and proxies.

It appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Brothers Thompson and Exum a committee on Returns, who forthwith made the following report :

The committee on Returns beg leave to report that they have examined the returns and credentials from the following subordinate Lodges, which they find correct and in regular form, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—L. A. Thompson, Worshipful Master ; John B. Taylor, Senior Warden ; J. Bryan, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Jesse Coe, Worshipful Master ;

R. M. Davidson, proxy for Senior Warden ; T. Kenan, Representative.
From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—J. W. Exum, Worshipful Master ;
Geo. S. Hawkins, Representative.

From Hiram Lodge, No. 5, U. D.—J. D. Parish, Representative.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then appointed the following standing committees :

On Finance—Brothers GEE and DAVIDSON.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers THOMPSON and D. KENAN.

On By-Laws—Brothers TAYLOR and BRYAN.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers TAYLOR and DAVIDSON.

Brother Parish presented the proceedings of Hiram Lodge, U. D., which were referred to the committee on By-Laws.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 12, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Officers were present as on yesterday, and the following members and brethren, viz.:

James A. Berthelot, George E. Dennis, Christian Fletcher, Robert Ruddock, William W. Hart, Richard Hayward, Daniel L. Kenan, David C. Wilson, R. J. Blount, J. B. Comparet, H. G. Merley.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Finance made the following report :

" Your committee beg to report that, owing to the absence of the Grand Secretary, on business connected with the present Indian excitement in our country, they are not able, for the want of the necessary books and papers, to perform this duty.

" HENRY GEE, *Chairman*."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

" In consequence of the absence of our brother, the Grand Secretary (on business relative to the prevailing Indian excitement), who has the control of the foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge, your committee are unable to make further report.

" L. A. THOMPSON, *Chairman*."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until six o'clock, this evening.

TUESDAY, six o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present, as in the forenoon, and a number of members and visiting brethren.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of the Grand

Officers for the ensuing year, and on counting the ballots the following brothers were respective declared duly elected :

M. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY GEE, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ROBERT B. KER, Grand Secretary.
R. W. D. M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Lecturer.
W. D. L. KENAN, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

Brothers RICHARD HAYWARD and JAMES A. BERTHELOT, Grand Marshals.
Brothers ROBERT RUDDOCK and DAVID C. WILSON, Grand Stewards.
Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report :

"The undersigned, since the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, and in the absence of the M. W. Grand Master, viz., on the twenty-seventh day of February last, issued a dispensation to Brothers Abram Bellamy, Worshipful Master; Daniel S. Graham, Senior Warden; John G. Parish, Junior Warden, and the requisite number of Master Masons, to organize a Lodge at Monticello, in the county of Jefferson, to be called Hiram Lodge, No. 5.

"Also, a dispensation to Harry R. Taylor, Worshipful Master; Gabriel J. Floyd, Senior Warden; Amory Rodgers, Junior Warden, and a constitutional number of Master Masons, to organize a Lodge at Apalachicola, in the county of Franklin, to be called Franklin Lodge, No. 6. All of which is respectfully submitted.

"I. G. SEARCY, *Deputy Grand Master.*"

The committee on By-Laws made an unfavorable report on the proceedings and by-laws of Hiram Lodge, U. D., and its Master.

Whereupon, on motion, it was ordered that a committee of three be appointed, to whom the proceedings shall be referred, to be reported on at the next annual communication, and Brothers Thompson, Gee, and Taylor, appointed on said committee.

The Grand Officers-elect were then installed, and after the usual orders in relation to accounts and the payment of Grand Officers, the Grand Lodge was closed, until the next annual communication, in peace and harmony.

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Master.*

R. B. KER, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 9, 1837.

M. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee on Monday, the ninth day of January, A. L. 5837, A. D. 1837.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, *Grand Master*.
R. W. HENRY GEE, *Deputy Grand Master*.
R. W. D. M. SHEFFIELD, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Junior Warden*.
R. REV. JESSE COE, *Grand Chaplain*.
R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, *Grand Treasurer*.
R. W. ROBERT B. KEE, *Grand Secretary*.
W. RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. DAVID C. WILSON, *Grand Junior Deacon pro tem*.

Brother HEEZEKIAH MYERS, *Grand Tyler*.

And members, representatives, and proxies of subordinate Lodges.

It appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then appointed Brothers Sheffield and Gibson a committee on Returns and Credentials, who forthwith made the following report :

"The committee on Returns and Credentials, have examined the returns and credentials handed over to them by the Grand Secretary.

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—John B. Taylor, *Worshipful Master* ; R. A. Shine, *Senior Warden* ; Richard Hayward, *Junior Warden* ; James A. Berthelot, *Representative*.

"Washington Lodge, No. 2—Rev. Jesse Coe, *Worshipful Master* ; Daniel L. Kenan, *Senior Warden* ; J. H. Gibson, *proxy for Junior Warden* ; J. Malone, *Representative*.

"Harmony Lodge, No. 3—W. H. Robinson, *Representative*.

"And beg leave to report, that they appear to be correct and in proper form.

"NOTE.—No further returns having been made by Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, it was declared defunct."

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Finance—Brothers COE and KENAN.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers MALONE and KENAN.

On By-Laws—Brothers DUVAL and GEE.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers SHEFFIELD and GIBSON.

On motion of Rev. Brother Jesse Coe, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons, in good standing, be invited to seats in this Grand Lodge during its session."

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, January 10, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Officers were present as yesterday, and a number of members, representatives, and visiting brethren.

A report was received from the Grand Treasurer, which was referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The special committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge, to inquire into the causes of complaints made against the Master of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, U. D., reported the result of their inquiries, and moved that a special committee be appointed to prepare and present charges and specifications against Brother Abram Bellamy, Master of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, U. D., and that they summon him to appear and answer to the same. Whereupon, the Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following brothers on said committee :

Rev. Jesse Coe, P. G. M., and Brothers John P. Duval, Henry Gee, D. M. Sheffield, and J. B. Taylor.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until three o'clock this evening.

TUESDAY, January 10, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon, and a number of members and visiting brethren.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

"The committee on Finance, to whom were referred the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, beg leave to report, that they have examined the same, and find them correct, and supported by proper vouchers.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"JESSE COE, *Chairman*."

The committee on By-laws made a favorable report in regard to the proceedings and by-laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, U. D. Whereupon, a warrant was ordered to be issued to Hiram Lodge, No. 5. Brothers James A. Goff, W. M. ; D. S. Graham, S. W. ; John W. Palmer, J. W.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence reported that they had received from the Grand Secretary the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Georgia, Maryland, Connecticut, New York, New Hampshire, Kentucky, District of Columbia, and Mississippi, but have not had time to give to them that examination which would justify your committee in attempting to present a detailed report. All of which is respectfully submitted.

"JOHN W. MALONE, } Committee."
 "D. L. KENAN, }

THE CASE OF BROTHER ABRAM BELLAMY.

The committee appointed to prepare and present charges and specifications against Brother Abram Bellamy, W. M. of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, reported the following charge and specifications :

"CHARGE.—Unmasonic Conduct.

"*First Specification.*—For accepting a challenge to fight a duel, from Capt. Everett White, a Master Mason.

"*Second Specification.*—For meeting the said brother while on the ground appointed for the combat, and fighting a duel, which resulted in the death of the said Capt. Everett White.

"JESSE COE,
 "HENRY GEE,
 "JOHN B. TAYLOR,
 "JOHN P. DUVAL,
 "D. M. SHEFFIELD, } Committee."

On motion, the Grand Secretary was directed to furnish Brother Bellamy with a copy of the charge and specifications preferred against him, and to notify him that this Grand Lodge has appointed the twenty-fourth day of the present month, at ten o'clock in the morning, for his trial, which is to take place at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, when his defense will be heard, and his case determined.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, January 11th, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and a number of members and visiting brethren.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brothers were respectively declared duly elected, viz. :

M. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Master.
 R. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Deputy Grand Master.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. D. L. KENAN, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. REV. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
 R. W. D. M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Lecturer.
 R. W. WM. HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
 W. WILLIAM H. ROBINSON, Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. JAMES A. GOFF, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

Brothers RICHARD HAYWARD and JAMES A. BERTHELOT, Grand Marshals.

Brothers CHARLES H. GOLDSBOROUGH and DAVID C. WILSON, Grand Stewards.

Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers, in SOLEMN ANCIENT FORM.

The Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, until Tuesday morning, the twenty-fourth day of the present month, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 24th, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft met, and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM and with prayer.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Master.

R. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. R. B. KER, Grand Secretary.

W. D. C. WILSON, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. D. M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

With a full representation of subordinate Lodges.

And the following members and visiting brethren, viz. :

James A. Berthelot, R. A. Shine, William Robinson, F. S. Ming, James A. Goff, A. B. Shehee, Harry R. Taylor, B. T. Wachob, Henry Washington, Leigh Reid, A. Bellamy, Richard Hayward, J. H. Gibson, and R. C. Parish.

Brother Goff presented the returns of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, and Brother Taylor presented the proceedings and by-laws of Franklin Lodge, U. D., which were respectively submitted to the committee on Returns.

The committee on Returns made a favorable report on the returns of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, whereupon it was

"Resolved, That the representative from said Lodge take his seat in the Grand Lodge."

And the same committee made a favorable report upon the proceedings and by-laws of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, and recommended that the same be approved, and that a warrant be granted to said Lodge, which was adopted, and the representative of said Lodge took his seat in the Grand Lodge.

TRIAL AND ACQUITTAL OF BROTHER ABRAM BELLAMY.

The Grand Lodge then went into the examination of the charge and specifications preferred against Brother Abram Bellamy, and after a

full examination of testimony and investigation of the whole matter, Brother L. A. Thompson offered the following resolutions, which were severally read, and a vote taken upon each resolution, and unanimously adopted :

"1. *Resolved*, That, after a careful and attentive hearing of the case of Brother Abram Bellamy, it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that, in the unfortunate affair between him and the late Brother Everett White, which resulted in the death of the latter, Brother Bellamy evinced every disposition to terminate and arrange the difficulty between them in a friendly and brotherly manner. -

"2. *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it would have been terminated and settled through the exertions of the brethren who were appointed for that purpose, had it not been for the interference of persons not connected with the institution, who operated on the feelings and opinions of Brother White.

"3. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that, in the rencounter which resulted in the death of Brother White, the accused brother acted in the defensive.

"4. *Resolved*, That it appears, from the testimony produced, that Hiram Lodge, No. 5, of which both parties were members, was not wanting in necessary vigilance, or in exertions to bring the difficulty between the brothers to an amicable issue.

"Therefore, finally, *Resolved*, By this Grand Lodge, that Brother Abram Bellamy is honorably acquitted of the charge and specifications preferred against him."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

JANUARY 25th, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and a number of members and visiting brethren.

Brother Peter W. Gautier, Jr., appeared as proxy for Brother J. W. Exum, Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, and took his seat.

After the usual orders for the settlement of accounts against the Grand Lodge, and the payment of its officers, the Grand Lodge was closed in *AMPLE FORM*, in peace and harmony, until the next Grand annual communication.

H. GEE, *Grand Master*.

R. B. KER, *Grand Secretary*.

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 8, 1838.

M. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, *Grand Master.*

At an annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the eighth day of January, A. L. 5838, A. D. 1838.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. HENRY GEE, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. DANIEL L. KENAN, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Treasurer *pro tem.*
R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
W. JAMES A. BERTHELOT, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem.*
W. J. W. MALONE, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem.*
Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

And a number of members and representatives.

It appearing that there was a constitutional number of subordinate Lodges represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain. The Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brothers Brown and Taylor a committee on Returns and Credentials, who, after a brief examination, made the following report :

"The committee on Returns and Credentials have received from the Grand Secretary the returns and credentials of the following subordinate Lodges :

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—J. P. Duval, Representative.

"Washington Lodge, No. 2—J. W. Bruton, Worshipful Master ; J. Malone, Senior Warden ; W. H. Gibson, proxy for Junior Warden ; Banks Mechum, Representative.

"From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—J. W. Exum, Worshipful Master ; Jesse Coe, Representative.

"From Hiram Lodge, No. 5—A. J. Dozler, Representative.

"From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—H. R. Taylor, Worshipful Master.

"Which they have examined and find correct, and in the form prescribed, and give evidence that all dues to the Grand Lodge have been paid.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"THOMAS BROWN, }
"JOHN B. TAYLOR, } *Committee.*"

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then appointed the following standing committees, viz. :

On Finance—Brothers BERTHELOT and BROWN.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers DUVAL and KENAN.

On By-Laws—Brothers EXUM and MECHUM.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers REID and DOZIER.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, January 9, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and Past Grand Master Duval and Exum, Past Deputy Grand Master Brown, and a number of members and visiting brethren.

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were presented, and referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

Brother Exum, from the committee on By-Laws, reported that they had examined the by-laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, and found them truly Masonic in all their parts.

And, after the transaction of some other business, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until three o'clock this evening.

JANUARY 9, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon, with the usual attendance of members and visitors.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Finance and Accounts made the following report :

"The committee on Finance and Accounts, to whom were referred the accounts of Brother William Hilliard, Grand Treasurer, and Brother R. B. Ker, Grand Secretary, beg leave to report that they have examined the same, and find them correct, and that they are supported by proper vouchers. They show a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, on the first day of January instant, of one hundred and fifty-six dollars and twenty-five cents.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"J. A. BERTHELOT, *Chairman.*"

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of its officers for the ensuing year, and the following brothers were respectively proclaimed duly elected, viz. :

M. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Master.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
 R. W. DANIEL L. KENAN, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. REV. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
 R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. I. G. Searcy, Grand Secretary.
 W. JOHN W. MALONE, Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. ALBERT J. DOZIER, Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment until ten o'clock to-morrow morning, when the Grand Officers-elect will be installed.

WEDNESDAY, January 10, ten o'clock, A. M

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and a number of members and brethren.

The Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments :

Brothers JAMES A. BERTHELOT and JAMES J. PITTMAN, Grand Marshals.
 Brothers DAVID C. WILSON, and CHARLES H. GOLDSBOROUGH, Grand Stewards.
 Brother HEZEKIAH MYERS, Grand Tyler.

The Officers-elect were then installed in the usual ANCIENT FORM.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE. •

Brother Past Grand Master John P. Duval, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was read and ordered to be published, with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge :

“TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA :

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have attended to the duties which have been assigned them, and find that communications have been received from the Grand Lodges of Maryland, Ohio, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Connecticut, New York, and Ireland.

“They find nothing in the communications requiring the action of this Grand Lodge, except in the one received from New York. They regret to find that York Lodge, No. 367, has put the Grand Lodge of New York at defiance. It appears that York Lodge had resolved to celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist on the 24th of June last, and ordered a procession. It was forbidden by the Deputy Grand Master, in the absence of the Grand Master, as a violation of the customs of the Grand Lodge ; and the Deputy Grand Master issued his proclamation prohibiting the procession, and also in person forbade the procession on the morning of the 24th of June, both of which were not only disregarded, but the Deputy Grand Master was treated with disrespect, and in his person, an insult was offered to our ancient Order. In consequence of this outrage on the Masonic fraternity, the Grand Lodge of New York, on the 12th of July last, expelled the brethren who had been most prominent in the violation of their Masonic duties. The expelled brethren then formed what they call a Grand Lodge, in violation of the regulations of Masonry.

"Your committee recommend that the Grand Lodge of New York should be sustained, and that no communication be held with the expelled Masons or their mis-called Grand Lodge. They would recommend also, that the publication of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York on this subject, hereto appended, be printed with this report, in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

"The committee recommend a fraternal interchange of correspondence with the Grand Lodges of the United States, and all Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

"Your committee, from an inspection of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges received, congratulate the Fraternity on the wide spread of Masonry. Although calumny has endeavored, with ceaseless hate, to affix a foul blot on the fair escutcheon of Masonry, it beams, untarnished, the star of hope to the widow and the orphan.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, }
"D. L. KENAN, } *Committee.*"

CIRCULAR FROM THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK.

"GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Sept. 18, 1837.

"BROTHERS:—You will please to take notice, and communicate to the Masonic Fraternity as extensively as possible, that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York have expelled, for unmasonic conduct—

"William F. Platt, Past Master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 373, and Samuel Jones, Senior Warden of the same Lodge.

"Henry C. Atwood, Master of York Lodge, No. 367.

"John Burnet, Master of Benevolence Lodge, No. 142, and William Cuscaden, Past Master of the same Lodge.

"Orlando Warren, Master of Silentia Lodge, No. 360, and Henry Weaver, Senior Warden of the same Lodge.

"The warrant of York Lodge, No. 367, has been declared forfeited, void, and of no further effect, and the officers and members expelled for creating a confusion and disturbance in the Fraternity, subversive of the principles of the Order, and injurious to its prosperity and character, by a violation of duty to the Grand Lodge.

"I have further to give you notice that the aforesaid expelled Masons have banded together, and being countenanced and aided by certain other persons, have expressed their determination to form themselves and their associates into a Grand Lodge. From the stations which several of them have held, they have the warrants of the Lodges still in their possession, which they refuse to surrender. They retain their stations and refuse to submit to the authority of the Grand Lodge, excluding, by their presence, the members of said Lodges, who will not violate their duty and their conscience by submitting with expelled Masons and others who will not countenance them in their willful and unlawful proceedings.

"This is, therefore, to warn all faithful brethren, especially the past and present Grand Officers of Grand Lodges, and sojourners from abroad, and who may visit this city, that they may not be misled innocently to countenance 'innovations in the body of Masonry,' to the removal of the ancient landmarks.

"JAMES A. HERRING, *Grand Secretary.*"

Sundry orders were made for the payment of accounts against the Grand Lodge, and for the payment of Grand Officers for their services, and then the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM until the next Grand annual communication.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 14, 1839.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the fourteenth day of January, A. L. 5839, A. D. 1839.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. LESLIE A. THOMPSON, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEORGE E. DENNIS, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.
R. W. ALFRED A. FISHER, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.
R. Rev. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. D. M. SHEFFIELD, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.
R. W. ISHAM G. SHERCY, Grand Secretary.
W. W. H. MICHAELS, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.
W. A. J. DOZIER, Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother JAMES BARRY, Grand Tyler.

And a number of members and representatives of subordinate Lodges.

It appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Dozier and D. L. Kenan a committee on Returns and Credentials, and after a short time the committee reported that they had received from the Grand Secretary the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, viz.:

Jackson Lodge, No. 1—John P. Duval, Worshipful Master ; William H. Michaels, Representative.

Washington Lodge, No. 2—Jesse Coe, Worshipful Master ; Isaac Furgurson, Representative.

Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Dempsey Pittman, Representative.

Hiram Lodge, No. 5—Wm. Tradewell, proxy for Worshipful Master ; Albert J. Dozier, Representative.

Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Geo. S. Hawkins, Representative.

Which they had examined and found correct, and according to form prescribed, and that all dues were acknowledged by the Grand Secretary to have been paid.

ALBERT JOHN DOZIER, *Chairman.*

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to appoint the following standing committees, viz.:

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers TAYLOR and HALL.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers BERTHELOT and FURGURSON.

On By-Laws—Brothers PALMER and HILLIARD.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers SHEFFIELD and MICHAELS.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were presented and referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The proceedings and by-laws of Clinton Lodge, U. D., were presented and referred to the committee on By-Laws.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until tomorrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 15, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday. And a number of members and brethren.

The committee on Finance and Accounts made the following report :

"The committee on Finance and Accounts, to whom was referred the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, have examined the same, and beg leave to report that they find them correct, and supported by proper vouchers, and that there appears to be now in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the sum of two hundred and fifty-nine dollars and thirty-five cents.

"Which is respectfully submitted.

"JOHN B. TAYLOR, } *Committee.*
"C. C. HALL, }

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was received and read :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have handed to them by the Grand Secretary, the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Ireland, State of Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, and Alabama. Your committee have it not in their power during the session of this Grand Lodge, to give to those proceedings the attention which they merit ; they present the condition of Freemasonry in a very favorable aspect, but we see nothing of moment requiring the action of this Grand Lodge, except perhaps, and it may be proper to notice it, that the Grand Lodge of Virginia has addressed to this Grand Lodge a circular, giving notice of the expulsion of Thomas Daly, by Richmond Lodge, No. 19, which was confirmed by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and requesting

that this Grand Lodge will make a special communication of the same to each of the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"JAMES A. BERTHELOT, }
"ISAAC FURGURSON, JR., } *Committee.*"

A petition was presented, signed by a number of Master Masons, some of whom are members of this Grand Lodge, praying that a warrant be granted to open a Lodge at Pleasant Grove, to be called Orion Lodge, No. 8, which petition was received, read, and the prayer granted, and a warrant ordered to be issued.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until three o'clock this evening.

JANUARY 15, three o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present, as in the forenoon, and a number of members and representatives.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Brother James A. Berthelot announced to the Grand Lodge, the death of P. G. M. James W. Exum, and submitted the following preamble and resolutions :

"Whereas, Since the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, it has pleased the Divine Architect of the Universe to remove from our midst our worthy brother, James W. Exum, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and,

"Whereas, His many virtues, as a man and a Mason, had endeared him not only to our Order (of which he was an ornament), but to all who knew him. Be it, therefore,

"Resolved, That in the publication of the proceedings of the present session, the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge cause to be appended to the same, a suitable and appropriate obituary notice of the death of our worthy and highly esteemed brother, James W. Exum, Past Grand Master.

"Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge do wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days, as a testimonial of our respect to the memory of our lamented Past Grand Master."

Unanimously adopted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of its Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and, on counting the ballots, the following brothers were respectively proclaimed duly elected :

M. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Master.
R. W. DANIEL L. KENAN, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. ALBERT JOHN DOZIER, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. JESSE COE, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Lecturer.
R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
W. A. J. FISHER, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. I. FURGURSON, Jr., Grand Junior Deacon.

And the M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments :

Brothers JAMES A. BERTHELOT and WILLIAM H. MICHAELS, Grand Marshals.

Brothers A. A. FISHER and GEO. W. HUTCHINS, Grand Stewards.

Brother JAMES BARRY, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers-elect were duly installed in ANCIENT SOLEMN FORM.

And after the usual orders and appropriations for the payment of accounts against the Grand Lodge, and for the payment of Grand Officers, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, in peace and harmony.

L. A. THOMPSON, *Grand Master.*

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 14, 1840.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of January, A. L. 5840, A. D. 1840.

NOTE.—Owing to the inclemency of the weather, a quorum of Lodges was not represented on Monday.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Master*.
R. W. HENRY GEE, *Deputy Grand Master*.
R. W. A. J. FISHER, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. JAMES H. GIBSON, *Grand Junior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, *Grand Treasurer*.
R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary*.
R. W. R. A. SHINE, *Grand Lecturer*.
W. I. FURGURSON, *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, *Grand Junior Deacon*.
Brother JOHN C. JACOB, *Grand Tyler*.

And a number of representatives, members, and brethren.

It appearing that a constitutional number of subordinate Lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer.

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to appoint on the committee on Returns and Credentials, Brothers Gibson and Shine, who reported that they had examined the returns and credentials which they had received from the Grand Secretary, and which they found correct and in due form, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—A. J. Fisher, *Worshipful Master* ; A. Formey Duval, *Senior Warden* ; Henry H. Berry, *Junior Warden* ; R. A. Shine, *Representative*.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—James H. Gibson, proxy for Worshipful Master ; I. Furgurson, proxy for Senior Warden ; Banks Meacham, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Isham G. Searcy, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Geo. S. Hawkins, proxy for Worshipful Master ; Robert Myers, Representative.

* From Orion Lodge, No. 8—Jeremiah H. Taylor, Representative.

And evidence that all dues to the Grand Lodge, from said Lodges, had been promptly paid to the Grand Secretary.

Whereupon, the M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers FISHER and FURGURSON.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers J. L. TAYLOR and A. F. DUVAL.

On By-Laws—Brothers MEACHAM and MYERS.

On Dispensations—Brothers BROWN and J. P. DUVAL.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers BROWN and BARRY.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were handed in, and referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Grand Secretary also made a report of the numbers and names of dispensations for new Lodges, granted by the M. W. Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge, which was referred to the committee on Dispensations.

On motion, a special committee was appointed, consisting of Brothers Meacham, J. L. Taylor, and Gibson, to inquire into the causes of complaints preferred against Jackson Lodge, No. 1, and to make report to this Grand Lodge.

The committee on By-Laws made a favorable report upon the proceedings and by-laws of Orion Lodge, No. 8, which was received.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening, at seven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 15, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and a number of members and brethren.

The committee on Dispensations reported that they had examined the proceedings of Clinton Lodge, No. 7 ; St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 9 ; and Planter's Lodge, No. 10 ; all of which Lodges are under dispensation, and located in East Florida ; and as your committee are aware of the disturbed state of the country, on account of the prevailing Indian war, recommend that further time be allowed them to make full reports.

THOMAS BROWN, } Committee.
J. P. DUVAL, }

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find that printed proceedings have been received from the following Grand Lodges, viz.: Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Indiana; and they take pleasure in saying that there is much valuable Masonic matter in these reports, which would be interesting to the Craft in this jurisdiction, if your committee had time to present it in proper form; but, limited to the few hours allowed us to make this report, we can only say that we find nothing in them that requires the special action of this Grand Lodge at this time.

"J. L. TAYLOR,
"A. FORMEY DUVAL, } Committee."

The special committee on the charges of irregularity preferred against Jackson Lodge, No. 1, made the following report :

"The committee appointed to investigate the charges of irregularities alleged against Jackson Lodge, No. 1, have had the subject under consideration, and from all the evidence which they have been able to obtain from a number of worthy brothers, in whom your committee have fraternal confidence, they beg leave to report the sub-joined resolution :

"Resolved, That the charter of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, be withdrawn and revoked.

"BANKS MEACHAM, *Chairman.*"

On motion, the report and resolution were laid on the table until Friday, the seventeenth inst., at seven o'clock, P. M., and that the Grand Secretary do notify the Worshipful Master and Wardens of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, that at that time the report and resolution of the special committee will be taken up and discussed.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of its Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and, on counting the ballots, it was respectively proclaimed that the following brothers were duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COX, Grand Master.
R. W. DANIEL L. KENAN, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. BANKS MEACHAM, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. J. GLANCY JONES, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Lecturer.
R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.
W. JAMES A. BERTHELOT, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. ISAAC FURGUSON, Jr., Grand Junior Deacon.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow at seven o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 16, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday, and a number of members and brethren.

Brother John B. Satterthwaite, a member of the Grand Steward's Lodge of New York, was introduced, and, during the evening, made a verbal communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York; and, on his concluding his remarks, it was determined that the M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Secretary have a conference with our said brother from New York, and report their opinion to this Grand Lodge.

Brother Fisher, from the committee on Finance and Accounts, reported that the committee had examined the accounts and reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and found them correct and supported by proper vouchers; and that there remained in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, on the first of January instant, unappropriated, the sum of three hundred and seventy-three dollars and seventeen cents (\$373 17).

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening, at seven o'clock.

FRIDAY, January 17, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and a number of members and brethren.

The report of the special committee in relation to the irregularities in the transactions of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, was taken from the table, and, after discussion and consideration, it was ordered that the resolution be laid on the table until the next annual communication.

The M. W. Grand Master made a verbal report, that in compliance with a resolution of yesterday, he had had a conference with Brother Satterthwaite, in company with the Grand Secretary, which was deemed satisfactory, in regard to the proposition of the Grand Lodge of New York, on the subject of Grand Lodge representation; and accordingly recommended an interchange of Grand Lodge representatives.

Whereupon, Brother James A. Berthelot, a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, was nominated as a proper representative, to be appointed by the Grand Lodge of New York, near this Grand Lodge; and Brother Satterthwaite nominated Brother John Telfair, Past Master of ——— Lodge, to represent this Grand Lodge, near the Grand Lodge of New York, who was accordingly appointed.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

SATURDAY, January 18, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and a number of members and brethren.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

Brothers A. J. FISHER and C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Marshals.

Brothers R. B. KER and JAMES BARRY, Grand Stewards.

Brother J. C. JACOBI, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers were then installed according to ANCIENT FORM and ceremonies, and, after the usual orders for the payment for the services of Grand Officers and accounts against the Grand Lodge, it was closed in AMPLE FORM, in peace and harmony.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Master.*

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 11, 1841.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the eleventh day of January, A. L. 5841, A. D. 1841.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Deputy Grand Master pro tem*.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Junior Warden pro tem*.
R. Rev. J. GLANCY JONES, *Grand Chaplain*.
R. W. JOSEPH MOORE, *Grand Lecturer pro tem*.
R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, *Grand Treasurer*.
R. W. ISHAM GREEN SEARCY, *Grand Secretary*.
W. JAMES A. BERTHELOT, *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. ISAAC FURGURSON, *Grand Junior Deacon*.

Brother J. C. JACOBI, *Grand Tyler*.

Past Grand Masters DUVAL, THOMPSON, TAYLOR, and BROWN, and many members and representatives.

It appearing that a quorum of Lodges was represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Reverend Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brothers Berthelot and Shine, a committee on Returns and Credentials; who forthwith reported that they had received from the Grand Secretary the returns and credentials of the following Lodges, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Thomas Hayward, Worshipful Master; Richard Hayward, Senior Warden; C. C. Fletcher, Junior Warden; S. S. Sibley, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Jesse Coe, Worshipful Master; Isaac Furgurson, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Elijah Bryant, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—George S. Hawkins, Representative.

From Orion Lodge, No. 8—John Chason, Worshipful Master.

From Madison Lodge, No. 11—Joseph Moore, Worshipful Master.

Which they have examined and found correct and in proper form, and that all dues to the Grand Lodge have been paid by the Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing committees, viz.:

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers BROWN and FERGURSON.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers DUVAL, TAYLOR, and HAYWARD.

On By-Laws—Brothers R. HAYWARD and BRYANT.

On Dispensations—Brothers S. S. SIBLEY and FLETCHER.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers BERTHELOT and HILLIARD.

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were presented and referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Grand Secretary reported that during the recess of the Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Master had issued dispensations to open a Lodge at Madison, C. H., named Madison Lodge, No. 11, and one at St. Augustine, named St. John's Lodge, No. 12; and that Clinton Lodge, No. 7, in St. Augustine, had surrendered its dispensation. He also laid before the Grand Lodge a letter from the Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 12, submitting a question for the consideration of this Grand Lodge; which was referred to a select committee, consisting of Brothers T. Hayward, J. P. Duval, and J. B. Taylor.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 12, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and many members and brethren.

Brother Rev. J. Glancy Jones communicated to the Grand Lodge the death, since its last session, of Brother Daniel L. Kenan, Deputy Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and offered the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge feel deeply the loss they have sustained in the death of their Deputy Grand Master, Daniel L. Kenan; in whom Masonry has lost one of its brightest ornaments, and society at large one of its most valuable members.

"Resolved, That for the remainder of this session, as an expression of our high respect, the jewels be clothed in mourning, and that the members of this Grand Lodge will wear, for the space of thirty days, the usual badge of Masonic mourning."

Which was unanimously adopted.

The committee on Dispensations made the following report :

"Your committee beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings and by-laws of Madison Lodge, No. 11, which they have approved, and, for good causes shown to us, we recommend that the dispensation be continued until the next Grand annual communication. We also respectfully recommend that the dispensation granted to Clinton Lodge, No. 7, which has been returned, not having been acted upon, be accepted.

"S. S. SIBLEY,
"C. C. FLETCHER, } Committee."

The report was read and adopted.

The special committee appointed upon the communication from St. John's Lodge, No. 12, U. D., reported—

"That the committee had carefully examined the correspondence and other papers submitted to them, and are clearly of opinion that this Grand Lodge has no original jurisdiction, except in cases where the party accused is a member of the Grand Lodge, and appellate jurisdiction in cases where the subordinate Lodge has definitely acted. Your committee refer the Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 12, to the sixteenth Section of Article the first, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and do recommend that said Lodge proceed in the case presented, and all similar cases, according to the provisions of that Section.

"T. HAYWARD, *Chairman*."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock this evening.

MONDAY, January 11, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon, and a number of members and brethren.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, that they have examined the published proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, Kentucky, Maryland, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Ohio, Indiana, and Virginia. From the tenor of these proceedings, your committee congratulate the Fraternity on the advancement of Freemasonry throughout the Union ; and are gratified to find that the institution sustains its high character for 'brotherly love, relief, and truth.' Your committee, however, regret to learn from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, that the M. W. Grand Master of that Grand Lodge, whilst on a visit to the city of New Orleans, during the session of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in that city, upon an application to visit the same, was informed that the by-laws of that Grand Lodge permitted no visitors. Your committee consider such regulations as highly discourteous, and conflicting with the rights of the M. W. Grand Master, and in opposition to the privileges of Ancient Masonry.

"In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, we find the following resolution was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That all the Grand Lodges in correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Alabama, be requested to elect one delegate, to meet in General Convention on the first Monday in March, 1842, in the city of Washington, for the purpose of determining on a uniform mode of work throughout all the Grand Lodges of the United States, and to make other lawful regulations for the interest and security of the Craft'

"Believing, as your committee do, in common with the committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, that the adoption of the above resolution will be a stepping-stone to the formation of a General Grand Lodge, which your committee believe of vital importance in the perfection of our Order in its pristine purity ; we recommend the adoption of the same resolution, and the appointment of some distinguished worthy brother to represent this Grand Lodge in the contemplated convention at Washington City, on the first Monday of March, 1842.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman*."

Which report was read and adopted.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 12, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and many members and brethren.

The following report was received and adopted :

"The special committee appointed to examine the by-laws of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, beg leave to report that they have performed that duty, and find that the Lodge has recently prepared and adopted a code of by-laws, which we have carefully examined and find to be in accordance with the established forms and usages of Ancient York Masonry, and which we have approved.

"Respectfully presented,

"R. A. SHINE, *Chairman*."

On motion, it was ordered that the Lodges under this jurisdiction, which have not provided a seal, respectively be notified to do so by the next annual communication.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of its Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and on counting the ballots, the following brothers were respectively declared elected, viz. :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. BANKS MEACHAM, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. ELLIAH BRYANT, Grand Junior Warden.

R. REV. J. GLANCY JONES, Grand Chaplain.

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Lecturer.

R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. ISHAM G. SEARCY, Grand Secretary.

W. ISAAC FURGURSON, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. S. S. SIBLEY, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

Brothers A. J. FISHER and C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Marshals.
Brothers R. B. KER and JOHN CHASON, Grand Stewards.
Brother J. C. JACOBI, Grand Tyler.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 13, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and many members and brethren.

The Grand Officers-elect were duly installed.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

"Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that any Lodge, whether working under dispensation or a warrant of constitution, when a contempt is offered to its authority, by refusing to obey its summons or otherwise, may, and it is its duty to reprimand, suspend, or expel, such contumacious brother, whether he be a member of that Lodge or not, if he be within its jurisdiction."

On motion of Brother Duval, the dispensations granted to St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 9, and St. John's Lodge, No. 12, were continued.

Brother John P. Duval, Past Grand Master, was elected a delegate to the National Convention, to meet in the city of Washington, on the first Monday in March, 1842, and Rev. J. Glancy Jones his alternate.

And after the usual orders, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, until the next Grand annual communication.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

I. G. SEARCY, *Grand Secretary.*

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 10, 1842.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the tenth day of January, A. L. 5842, A. D. 1842.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

R. W. THOMAS HATWARD, *Deputy Grand Master.*

P. G. Masters JOHN P. DUVAL and J. B. TAYLOR.

And a number of members and representatives.

But it appearing that there were not the constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Craft were called off, to meet this evening at seven o'clock.

MONDAY, January 10, seven o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

R. W. THOMAS HATWARD, *Deputy Grand Master.*

R. W. ALLAN H. BUSH, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem.*

R. W. E. D. CROSLAND, *Grand Junior Warden pro tem.*

R. W. R. A. SHINE, *Grand Lecturer.*

R. W. WILLIAM HILLIARD, *Grand Treasurer.*

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary pro tem.*

W. HENRY H. BERRY, *Grand Senior Deacon pro tem.*

W. S. S. SIBLBY, *Grand Junior Deacon.*

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, *Grand Tyler pro tem.*

And a number of members, representatives, and brethren.

It appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM and with prayer.

Brothers Shine and Bush were appointed a committee on Returns

and Credentials, who reported that they had examined and found correct and in proper form, returns from the following Lodges, viz. :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Thomas Hayward, Worshipful Master ; C. C. Fletcher, Junior Warden ; H. H. Berry, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Isaac R. Harris, Worshipful Master ; T. P. Randolph, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Allen H. Bush, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Seth P. Lewis, Representative.

From Orion Lodge, No. 8—E. D. Crosland, Worshipful Master ; Thos. Cartledge, Representative.

From St. John's Lodge U. D.—A. A. Fisher, Representative.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then made the following appointments on the standing committees, viz. :

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers BROWN and CROSLAND.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers J. P. DUVAL, T. HAYWARD, A. H. BUSH.

On By-Laws—Brothers BATTLE and FERGUSON.

On Dispensations—Brothers TAYLOR and S. S. SIBLEY.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers BERRY and FLETCHER.

And, on motion, a standing committee on Propositions and Grievances was constituted. And Brothers Hayward, Taylor, Randolph, Meacham, and Sibley were appointed on said committee.

On motion of Brother J. P. Duval, a special committee, consisting of Brothers Duval, Bush, and Crosland, was appointed to prepare and present to this Grand Lodge appropriate resolutions in relation to the death of Past Grand Master Isham Green Searcy, and late Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until tomorrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and many members and brethren.

Brother John P. Duval, from the special committee appointed for that purpose, presented the following resolutions, which were received, read, and unanimously adopted :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Florida deeply deplore the loss which the Fraternity has sustained by the death of its respected and beloved Brother, General Isham Green Searcy, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, and twice Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge. That his long and faithful services, his devotion to the principles and duties of the Order, his purity of life and conduct, and his inflexible integrity, will long be remembered, and held as a pattern by the faithful who knew his worth as a man and a Mason.

" *Resolved*, As a mark of our respect for the high character, and sorrow for the death of our lamented brother, the members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days ; and that the furniture and jewels of the Grand Lodge be clothed with the same habiliments of Masonic mourning.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary do cause to be prepared a letter from this Grand Lodge, and a copy of the foregoing resolutions, signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, addressed to the widow of the deceased, assuring her of the deep sympathy of the Grand Lodge of Florida with her in her irreparable loss.

"*Resolved*, That the proceedings be entered upon the records of this Grand Lodge, and published with its proceedings."

On motion of Brother Henry Gee, Past Grand Master, a special committee, consisting of Brothers Gee, Sibley, and Taylor, was appointed to prepare and present to the Grand Lodge resolutions expressive of the sense of loss this Grand Lodge entertains for the death of our worthy Past Grand Lecturer, David M. Sheffield.

The special committee appointed for that purpose presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were read and unanimously adopted :

"*WHEREAS*, It has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the universe to remove from amongst us our worthy and enlightened Brother, David M. Sheffield, Past Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge, therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That, in the death of Brother Sheffield, the Grand Lodge of Florida has lost one of its brightest Masons, and most honest men.

"*Resolved*, That the members of this Grand Lodge, deploring the loss of Brother D. M. Sheffield, will wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until this evening, at seven o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 11, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon, and members and brethren.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were respectively declared duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS PETER RANDOLPH, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. E. D. CROSLAND, Grand Junior Warden.

R. Rev. JOSHUA KNOWLES, Grand Chaplain.

R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Grand Lecturer.

R. W. RICHARD HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

W. HENRY H. BERRY, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. CHRISTOPHER C. FLETCHER, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

Brothers ROBERT W. WHITE and JOSEPH DOWLING, Grand Marshals.

Brothers ISAAC FERGUSON and JULIUS MUSE, Grand Stewards.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a public installation of the Grand Officers-elect take place at the Presbyterian church to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock, when the Rev. Joshua Knowles, Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, will deliver an oration appropriate to the occasion.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary address letters of invitation to the Honorable President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, now in session, inviting the members and officers of the Legislative Council, and to the Judges of the Honorable Court of Appeals, now in session, the members of the bar, and officers of the Court, to join the Grand Lodge of Florida in procession from the Masonic Hall, at eleven o'clock, A. M., to the Presbyterian church, when the public installation will be performed, and a funeral oration will be delivered by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

Resolved, That all Masons of good standing are invited to join in the procession, and the citizens generally are invited to the church, of which the Grand Secretary will give public notice."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 12, ten o'clock; A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before, and a large number of brethren.

When a procession was formed of the members of the Craft, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Legislative Council of Florida, the Judges of the Court of Appeals, and members of the bar, and the officers of the Court and Legislative Council; and at eleven o'clock, A. M., proceeded to the Presbyterian church, where the ceremonies of installation were publicly performed, and an able and impressive funeral oration was delivered by the Reverend Grand Chaplain, with appropriate music by the choir and the Pulaski Band, of Tallahassee. The Masons then formed in procession and returned to the Grand Lodge room. When the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to our Right Reverend Grand Chaplain, Brother Joshua Knowles, for the eloquent and impressive funeral oration delivered to-day on the occasion of the death of M. W. P. G. M. Isham Green Searcy, and R. W. P. G. L. David M. Sheffield.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Presbytery and choir of the Presbyterian Church in this city, for the use of the church and the services of the choir.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the officers and members of the Pulaski Band, of Tallahassee, for their services on this occasion."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, January 12, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before, and a large number of members and brethren.

The committee on Finance and Accounts made a full and detailed report on the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and late Grand Secretary, which was received and approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

• The committee on Foreign Correspondence, by its chairman, M. W. P. G. M. John P. Duval, made the following report :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have received the printed proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, viz :

"Missouri, Tennessee, Indiana, Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Virginia, Alabama, New Hampshire, and Georgia.

"Your committee exceedingly regret that the very limited time necessarily allowed them during the session of the Grand Lodge, when much of other business employs their attention, which renders it impossible for them to give a report of the valuable matter contained in those proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges. They can only remark that those proceedings give unmistakable evidence of the prosperous condition of Freemasonry in every section of our Union, notwithstanding the cruel and vindictive warfare which has been waged against our Order. We would respectfully recommend that this Grand Lodge take all proper means to encourage fraternal interchanges of correspondence with all of our sister Grand Lodges, and the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"J. P. DUVAL, *Chairman.*"

The committee on Dispensations made a favorable report on the proceedings and by-laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 12, U. D., of St. Augustine, East Florida, and recommended that a warrant be granted to said Lodge, which was approved, and the warrant ordered.

The charges and specifications preferred against the Rev. Brother J. Glancy Jones, Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, by Washington Lodge, No. 2, and a letter of explanation and defense by the deceased, were referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances, whereupon the said committee made a report, which was read, and Brother Duval offered the following substitute, which was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the charges and specifications, as preferred by Washington Lodge, No. 2, and all the papers and evidence in relation thereto, be taken up, examined, and acted upon by this Grand Lodge."

Whereupon, the charges and specifications were read, as also the

defense ; and all the testimony, *pro* and *con.*, and after a full and anxious hearing of the case, the following resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"Resolved, That the charges and specifications preferred by Washington Lodge, No. 2, against the Rev. J. Glancy Jones, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Florida, are, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, fully sustained, and that the said J. Glancy Jones, be, and he is hereby expelled from all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry."

And, after the usual orders for the payment of the accounts against the Grand Lodge, and the services of the Grand Secretary and Grand Tyler, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM. •

JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 9, 1843.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the ninth day of January, A. L. 5843, A. D. 1843.

There not being a constitutional number of Lodges represented in the forenoon, the Craft again assembled at the Masonic Hall, at six o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem.*
R. W. SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem.*
R. W. RICHARD HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. JOSHUA KNOWLES, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
W. HENRY H. BERRY, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem.*

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

And members, representatives, and brethren.

It appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented, the Grand Master appointed Brothers Shine and Sibley a committee on Returns and Credentials, who reported that they had received and examined the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—R. A. Shine, Worshipful Master ; Thomas Hayward, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Jesse Coe, Worshipful Master ; Gregory and A. K. Allison, Representatives.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Jas. J. Pittman, Worshipful Master.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—R. J. Floyd, Representative.

From Orion Lodge, No. 8—E. D. Crosland, Worshipful Master.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Jos. B. Lancaster, Representative.

Which they find correct and in proper form.

The Grand Master was then pleased to appoint the following standing committees :

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers BROWN and HAYWARD.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers LANCASTER, DUVAL, and HAYWARD.

On Dispensations—Brothers SIBLEY and FLOYD.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers BERRY and FLETCHER.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers DUVAL, GREGORY, FLOYD, LANCASTER, and ALLISON.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary made their annual reports, which were referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge a correspondence which he had with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, on the subject of Grand Lodge jurisdiction ; which was, on motion, referred to a select committee, consisting of Brothers Duval, Taylor, and Lancaster.

Brother Taylor offered a resolution to the effect that a committee be appointed to apply to the Legislative Council of Florida, now in session, for a charter of incorporation of the Grand Lodge of Florida ; which was adopted, and the following special committee appointed : Brothers John B. Taylor, J. P. Duval, and Thomas Brown.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow at four o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 10, four o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and members and brethren.

The committee on Finance and Accounts made the following report :

"The committee have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, which they find correct and properly supported by vouchers. Your committee beg to state to the Grand Lodge that there are funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer which have depreciated, and in regard to which some action should be taken.

"They would further call the attention of the Grand Lodge to that part of the Grand Secretary's report relating to defaulting Lodges, and respectfully recommend some action by this Grand Lodge on the subject.

"Respectfully submitted,

"THOMAS HAYWARD, *Chairman*."

A warrant was granted to St. John's Lodge, No. 12, in St. Augustine.

The select committee appointed upon the correspondence of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, on the subject of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, made a report ; which was read, and, on motion, laid on the table.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at four o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 11, four o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday, except that Brother E. D. Crosland, Grand Junior Warden, appeared and took his seat. Past Grand Masters Duval, Gee, Taylor, and Hayward, and a number of members and brethren were in attendance.

On motion of Brother T. Hayward, it was

“Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized and directed to dispose of the depreciated paper funds in the Treasury, on the best terms he can for specie funds.”

Brother John B. Taylor offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

“Resolved, That all the business of a Lodge, except that of conferring inferior degrees, and the lectures appertaining to them, shall be done in a Master Mason's Lodge ; and that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not liable for Grand Lodge dues.”

Brother John P. Duval offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

“Resolved, That suspension or expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter, or Encampment of Knights Templar, is not necessarily a suspension or expulsion from a Blue Lodge.”

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother Lancaster, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was adopted :

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have received and examined the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New Jersey, Virginia, Ohio, Rhode Island, Mississippi, Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, and Tennessee, and the Journal of the Convention of Grand Lodges held at the city of Washington in March last. From these proceedings your committee have the gratifying evidence of the wide spread and growing prosperity of Freemasonry throughout the Union.

“The committee regret, however, to observe, from the proceedings of New York, a movement on the part of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, to draw a line of discrimination between Masonic brethren of the Christian and Jewish faith. The perfection and beauty of Masonry, we have ever been taught to believe, consists in its universality. That the evergreen tree of Masonry sends its roots to the centre, and throws out its umbrageous boughs to the circumference of the earth, equally sheltering beneath its foliage every brother of the mystic tie, regardless of political opinions, sectarian tenets, or condition of life ; whether he be the jeweled monarch, radiant in glorious panoply, or the poorest peasant who wends his noiseless way along the sequestered vale of life. We are the more surprised at this attempt at invidious denunciation of a people, who were the originators and founders of our glorious Order.

"Your committee would recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to correspond with the Grand Lodges in the United States and the Republic of Texas, on the subject of a reciprocal interchange of representatives, as recommended by the Grand Lodge of New York. They would also suggest the propriety of appointing one or more Grand Lecturers, on the part of this Grand Lodge, to attend the convention of Grand Lodges, to be held in the city of Baltimore, on the second Monday of May next.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JOSEPH B. LANCASTER,
"JOHN P. DUVAL,
"THOMAS HAYWARD, } Committee."

Brother John P. Duval offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That suspension or expulsion for non-payment of dues, by subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, is prohibited by this Grand Lodge ; and that the punishment for such delinquencies shall only extend to deprivation of membership."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, January 11, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. E. D. CROSLAND, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. RICHARD HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
W. HENRY H. BERRY, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. O. C. FLETCHER, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

And a number of members and brethren.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and, upon counting the ballots, the following brethren were respectively proclaimed duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. E. D. CROSLAND, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
R. Rev. GEO. C. S. JOHNSON, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. A. J. FISHER, Grand Lecturer.
W. HENRY H. BERRY, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. J. R. HAYS, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

Brothers ROBERT W. WHITE and A. E. ALLISON, Grand Marshals.

Brothers I. FERGUSON and C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Stewards.

Brother JOHN B. DE COSSA, Grand Tyler.

And Brother Thomas Hayward, Past Deputy Grand Master, and Brother Grand Lecturer, were appointed, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Florida, to attend the convention of Grand Lecturers, to meet in the city of Baltimore, on the second Monday in May next.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening, at four o'clock.

THURSDAY, January 12, four o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and sundry members and brethren.

The report of the select committee on the subject of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, which was laid on the table on Tuesday, was, on motion, taken up for consideration, and was read as follows :

"The special committee, to whom was referred the correspondence between the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they have considered the subject, and as the best mode, in their opinion, to put the Grand Lodge in possession of the whole question at issue, to embody in their report the correspondence, which is as follows :

"MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., October 10, 1842.

"WORSHIPFUL THOMAS BROWN, GRAND SECRETARY, ETC.:

"*Worshipful Brother*.—Under instructions from the Grand Lodge of Georgia, it is made my duty to open a correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Florida, with a view to collect authentic information in regard to certain Lodges located within the territorial limits of Georgia, and at the same time working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

"This question has received the calm consideration of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in all its bearings. They regard this Grand body as the only legitimate source of Masonic authority in this State ; and that a number of brethren, forgetting their prime allegiance, and resorting to a foreign power for a warrant to work, is a direct infringement upon the rights and privileges of this Grand Lodge, and, as such, should be suppressed. I doubt not but that you, yourself, upon a deliberate review of the question thus raised, will be ready to coincide, in opinion, with that expressed by this Grand Lodge, and be inclined to lend your aid and influence to us in correcting an evil that should not be allowed to extend itself.

"I respectfully ask that you will take counsel with the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida upon the subject of this communication, and inform me as early as you can, how many, how long, and what Lodges in Georgia, hold their authority under your Grand Lodge, that I may lay such information before our Grand Lodge at its next meeting.

"Yours truly and fraternally,

"LUCIEN LA TASTE,

"Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia."

[REPLY.]

"TALLAHASSEE, Fla., October 16, 1842.

"R. W. LUCIEN LA TASTE, GRAND SECRETARY, ETC.:

"*Right Worshipful Brother* :—I have just received your communication, dated tenth instant, written under instructions from the Grand Lodge of Georgia, with a view to collect authentic information in regard to certain Lodges located within the territorial limits of Georgia; and, at the same time, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

"Your letter shall be laid before the Grand Lodge of Florida at its next annual communication, and its proceedings thereon shall be made known to the Grand Lodge of Georgia; and, in the meantime, I will give you all the information in my power on the subject.

"At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, in January, 1839, a petition, signed by a number of Master Masons, and some of them members of this Grand Lodge, was presented, praying for a warrant to open a Lodge at a place called Pleasant Grove. The petitioners all being well known to the Grand Lodge as worthy brethren, the warrant was granted by the name of Orion Lodge, No. 8, to Charles Munnerlyn, First Worshipful Master; John Chason, First Senior Warden; and Thomas E. Cartledge, First Junior Warden.

"The village of Pleasant Grove is about twenty miles from the city of Tallahassee, and very near the line between Florida and Georgia; but as the line separating the two States had not been determined, the question of jurisdiction was not suggested to the Grand Lodge when the prayer of the petitioners was granted. In January, 1842, it was made known to the Grand Lodge of Florida that Orion Lodge, No. 8, was moved from Pleasant Grove to the town of Decatur. This was the first information the Grand Lodge had of its location within the jurisdiction of Georgia.

"These are the facts of the case in regard to Orion Lodge, No. 8, and the only Lodge which has been chartered by the Grand Lodge of Florida within the territorial limits of the State of Georgia.

"Upon the general question of jurisdiction, it is not necessary for me now to express an opinion. But upon this particular case, I have no hesitation in saying that the Grand Lodge of Florida had no designs upon the territorial jurisdiction of Georgia, and that it has only done what it considered it had clearly a right to do, under the particular circumstances of the case. The brethren to whom the warrant was granted are our neighbors, and have all their dealings with us, and we were only consulting the convenience and prosperity of the Craft, without intending any disrespect to 'the only legitimate source of Masonic authority in the State' of Georgia, which I am well persuaded was not intended to be impeached by them or us.

"Permit me, in conclusion, to assure you, and through you, the Grand Lodge of Georgia, that the Grand Lodge of Florida will do no act with design to disturb the harmony and fraternal intercourse which subsists between the two Grand Lodges, and which we hope will ever cement them in brotherly love.

"Yours, very fraternally and truly,

"THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary."

"Your committee having reported the correspondence, which presents the whole question, will forbear to express any opinion upon the abstract question of the *right*, under any circumstances, fully satisfied of its *impolicy*."

The committee then go on to present many precedents in violation of this right of jurisdiction, and conclude with this declaration:

"Your committee, fully impressed with the *impolicy* of our Grand

Lodge holding jurisdiction over Lodges located within the territorial limits of another Grand Lodge, and anxious to preserve in its pristine purity and brightness the fraternal chain which unites all Grand Lodges of Ancient Freemasons throughout the world, present the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Florida will surrender all jurisdiction over Orion Lodge, No. 8, located within the territorial limits of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, so soon as the said Orion Lodge shall be received under the fraternal jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

" J. B. TAYLOR,	} <i>Committee."</i>
" J. P. DUVAL,	
" JOS. B. LANCASTER,	

The question being taken on the resolution, it was unanimously adopted.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock, this evening.

THURSDAY, January 12, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and a number of members and brethren.

The Grand Officers-elect were installed in due and ANCIENT FORM ; and, after the adoption of the usual resolutions and orders for the settlement and payment of claims and accounts against the Grand Lodge, and for the payment for the services of the Grand Secretary and Grand Tyler, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.

. . . PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 8, 1844.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the eighth day of January, A. L. 5844, A. D. 1844.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Deputy Grand Master*.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Senior Warden pro tem*.
R. W. R. A. SHINE, *Grand Junior Warden*.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.
R. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, *Grand Treasurer pro tem*.
R. Rev. GEORGE C. S. JOHNSON, *Grand Chaplain*.
W. ALEXANDER SNEED, *Grand Senior Deacon pro tem*.
W. ROBERT W. WHITE, *Grand Junior Deacon pro tem*.
Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, *Grand Tyler*.

And sundry members, representatives, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM.

Prayer was offered up to the throne of Divine Grace by the Reverend Grand Chaplain.

The officers and representatives from the following subordinate Lodges, under this jurisdiction, handed in their credentials and returns, and paid up their dues, viz. :

Jackson Lodge, No. 1—R. A. Shine, *Worshipful Master* ; R. W. White, *Representative*.

Washington Lodge, No. 2—G. W. Bruton, *Worshipful Master* ; W. W. Croom, *Senior Warden* ; P. A. Stockton, *Representative*.

Harmony Lodge, No. 3—F. R. Pittman, *proxy for A. H. Bush, Senior Warden* ; E. Bryan, *Representative*.

Orion Lodge, No. 8—Alexander Sneed, Worshipful Master.

St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Joseph B. Lancaster, Representative.

Coe Lodge, No. 13, U. D.—Thomas Hayward, Worshipful Master ; John B. Taylor, Senior Warden ; John P. Duval, Representative.

Brother Sneed, Worshipful Master of Orion Lodge, No. 8, made a verbal communication, informing this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia had, at its last Grand annual convocation, consented to endorse the warrant of Orion Lodge, No. 8, and to receive said Lodge under its jurisdiction, as soon as the warrant of said Lodge, and a petition thereupon, should be presented, in accordance with the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Florida, at its last Grand annual communication. Brother Sneed said he was charged by the members of Orion Lodge to tender to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida their most fraternal regard, and to express their deep regret for the necessity which separates them from the parent Grand Lodge, whence they received their existence as a Lodge, and with the members of which they have held such happy fraternal intercourse. Whereupon, Brother Lancaster offered the following resolutions, which were read and unanimously adopted :

“ Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of Florida, that it learns with great satisfaction the amicable, friendly, and fraternal relations now existing between the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia, and Orion Lodge, No. 8, located at Bainbridge, which said Lodge was lately subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

“ Resolved, That this Grand Lodge remembers, with great pleasure, the conduct of Orion Lodge, which has ever been highly proper and Masonic ; and, although it is admitted that jurisdiction of said Lodge, on Masonic principles, properly attaches to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, within whose State limits it is located, yet the members of this Grand Lodge cannot but regret the necessity which separates Orion Lodge from them ; and in taking leave, they unitedly and individually greet them as brothers, and will continue to cherish towards them the most kindly and fraternal feelings.

“ Resolved, That No. 8 shall not be appropriated to any other Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge ; and that the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Representatives of Orion Lodge shall ever be entitled to honorary membership in this Grand Lodge.

“ Resolved, That returns from Orion Lodge, No. 8, for 1843, be dispensed with, and that the dues for that year be remitted.”

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and adjourned to meet at four o'clock this afternoon.

Four o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The Grand Master announced the following standing committees :

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers BRYAN and S. S. SIBLEY.

On Returns—Brothers SHINE and FISHER.

On Foreign Communications—Brothers BROWN, LANCASTER, HAYWARD, and DUVAL.

On By-Laws and Dispensations—Brothers TAYLOR and FLOYD.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers BERRY and SIBLEY.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers DUVAL, LANCASTER, FLOYD, and TAYLOR.

R. W. Brother Thomas Hayward, Special Grand Lecturer, delegated to the convention of Grand Lodges at Baltimore, in May last, made the following report, which was received and read :

“ TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA :

“ *Most Worshipful Sir and Brother*.—Having been appointed at the last convocation of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, a special Grand Lecturer from this Grand Lodge to a general convention of Grand Lodges to be holden in the city of Baltimore, on Monday, the eighth of May, and having received my proper credentials, I accordingly attended at the time appointed, and met the representatives from the following Grand Lodges, namely: New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Ohio, and Missouri; constituting a decided majority of all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and having organized, we proceeded to the accomplishment of the work to which we had been appointed; and, after a full and free investigation, and patient deliberation, the convention, with almost entire unanimity, adopted a system of work and regulations, which I beg leave to submit to the Grand Lodge of Florida, in the printed form ordered by the convention, which is as full and explicit as the same can be written, and ask that it be received as a part of my report. I also submit to the Grand Lodge a *Trestle-Board* or *Hieroglyphic Monitor*, the outlines of which had been agreed upon by a committee of the most experienced and enlightened Masons in the convention, and which has been subsequently forwarded to me by R. W. Brother C. W. Moore, one of the committee, and the publisher. This work I have not had sufficient opportunity to give such a full examination as would justify me in expressing a very decided opinion in regard to its merits and utility. But from the hasty view I have had of it, and the high Masonic source whence it springs, I am disposed to think that it reflects the true work, and will answer the purposes desired. I hope the Grand Lodge will find it, on a full inspection, a valuable acquisition to the Craft, and lead to a uniformity of work, the great object of the convention.

“ I shall be happy, as far as I may be able, during the present communication, to exemplify, in open Grand Lodge, the work as adopted by the convention at Baltimore.

“ All of which is respectfully submitted,

“ By yours fraternally,

“ THOMAS HAYWARD.”

On motion of Brother Hayward, a select committee was appointed to examine and report on the New Masonic *Trestle-Board*, and the following brothers were appointed on that committee :

Brother S. S. Sibley, of Jackson Lodge, No. 1; Brother G. W. Bruton, of Washington Lodge, No. 2; Brother F. R. Pittman, of Harmony Lodge, No. 3; Brother J. B. Lancaster, of St. John's Lodge, No. 12; Brother Thomas Hayward, of Coe Lodge, No. 13.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, with his accounts and vouchers, which were read and referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, January 9, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

R. W. E. BRYAN, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.

W. H. H. BERRY, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. F. R. PITTMAN, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

And sundry members, representatives, and visitors.

On motion, it was ordered that the ceremony of installation be performed, and the oration be delivered in the lodge-room, on to-morrow evening, at seven o'clock, P. M., and the following brethren were appointed a committee of arrangements, viz. : Brothers Sibley, Fisher, and Hayward.

"The committee appointed by the Grand Lodge to examine the returns of subordinate Lodges, have performed that duty, and beg leave to report that they find the returns from the following Lodges correct, and agreeable to form, viz. :

"Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Washington Lodge, No. 2 ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; St. John's Lodge, No. 12 ; Coe Lodge, U. D., No. 13.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"R. A. SHINE, *Chairman*."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until this evening, at seven o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 9, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as this morning.

On motion, Brother Bryan was added to the committee on By-Laws and Dispensations.

A petition was presented and read from sundry Master Masons at Key West, praying for a dispensation to work under the name of Dade Lodge, with Oliver J. Noyes, as first Master ; Alexander Patterson, as first Senior Warden ; and Benjamin Sawyer, as first Junior Warden. The same being considered, and found to be in due form, and properly recommended, a dispensation was ordered to be issued, as prayed for, under the name and style of "Dade Lodge, No. 14." And which was accordingly issued and delivered to Brother Patterson, Senior Warden.

The committee on By-Laws and Dispensations made the following report, which was read and adopted :

"The committee have examined the by-laws and the abstract of proceedings of Coe Lodge, No. 13, U. D., located in the city of Tallahassee, and find them in accordance with the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and established Masonic usage.

"The committee have also examined the by-laws and abstract of proceedings of St. John's Lodge, No. 12, U. D., located in the city of St. Augustine, and find them in form not strictly according to Masonic usages. In the record of their meetings, the names and grade of the officers are not particularly specified. And some parts of their by-laws are not in accordance with the ancient landmarks."

On the petition of the Master and Wardens of Coe Lodge, No. 13, U. D., the dispensation was extended for a twelve month longer, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to endorse the same.

The Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, January 10, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. S. S. SIBLEY, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. E. BRYAN, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

R. W. W. W. CROOM, Grand Treasurer.

R. Rev. GEO. C. S. JOHNSON, Grand Chaplain.

W. H. H. BERRY, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. FRED. R. PITTMAN, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

M. W. HENRY GEE, P. G. M., M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, P. G. M., and sundry members, representatives, and visitors.

The committee on Finance and Accounts made the following report, which was read and adopted :

"The committee on Finance and Accounts have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, to them referred, and beg leave to report that they find them correct, and properly supported by vouchers.

"The Grand Treasurer acknowledges the sum of \$184 46 now in his hands, which we find to correspond with the report of the Grand Secretary.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"E. BRYAN,
"S. S. SIBLEY, } Committee."

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare a circular letter to the subordinate Lodges, and the brethren generally, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to be published with the proceedings of this Grand annual communication."

Whereupon, the Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed R. W. John B. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Thomas Hayward, Grand Lecturer ; and R. W. Thomas Brown, Grand Secretary, on said committee.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers to serve for the ensuing twelve months, and, on the several ballots, the following brethren were declared duly elected to the offices affixed to their names respectively :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. ELIJAH BRYAN, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. Geo. C. S. JOHNSON, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. HENRY H. BERRY, Grand Lecturer.
W. WILLIAM W. CROOM, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. FREDERICK R. PITTMAN, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

Brothers PHILIP A. STOCKTON and WALTER J. ROBINSON, Grand Marshals.
Brothers ROBERT W. WHITE and ALBERT A. NUNIS, Grand Stewards.
Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

The Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until this afternoon at four o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, four o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Foreign Communications made their report, which was read, as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have examined the communications from the following Grand Lodges, viz. :

"Alabama, Tennessee, Maryland, Virginia, Illinois, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio, Maine, Georgia, Louisiana, Arkansas, and the Republic of Texas ; and the proceedings of the National Masonic convention, held at Baltimore in May last.

"Your committee have remarked with gratified feelings, the spirit of industry and zeal which animates the Grand Lodges generally throughout the United States, which gives the assurance that the glorious cause of Freemasonry is onward, regardless of the assaults of all its enemies and detractors. Your committee, however, have

observed with regret that there is a conflict of opinion between the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Illinois in relation to jurisdiction. And that the Grand Lodges in the United States generally refuse to acknowledge the Grand Lodge of Michigan; but as your committee are not sufficiently informed upon the merits of these contests to venture the expression of an opinion, they leave the subject, with the hope that all causes of dissention amongst brothers may soon be brought to the level of truth, and be closed in peace and harmony, as they are happy to see has been the termination of the disagreement of the Grand Lodges of Virginia and Tennessee, on the question of territorial jurisdiction.

"The comments of the Grand Lodge of New York on the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, in the case of Orion Lodge, located in the State of Georgia, induces your committee to believe that the Grand Lodge of New York did not fully comprehend the views and arguments of the Grand Lodge of Florida. They say: 'The Grand Lodge of Florida, January 9th, 1843, explains the circumstances which led to the constituting Orion Lodge within the Territorial limits of the Grand Lodge of Georgia; they admit the *impolicy* of such a course, and have no desire to contend for the *right*, but in justification, they attempt to show precedents of the exercise of the *right*, "from the earliest history of Masonry in the United States down to the present day," and give as an example a resolution of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, of 1797, *against the practice*; the constituting of four Lodges by Kentucky, in Illinois, *by which the present Grand Lodge of Illinois has in part been since established*, and, lastly, the planting a Lodge by New York in Michigan, *where there was not, and is not now any recognizable Grand Lodge*. We must take leave to inform our sister Grand Lodge of Florida that the Grand Lodge of New York does not admit the right of any Grand Lodge to establish a Lodge within her Territorial jurisdiction, but that she holds it to be a right and a duty of all Grand Lodges to promote the regular organization of the Fraternity *in any State or Territory where no constitutional Masonic government exists*.' We respectfully represent to our sister Grand Lodge of New York, that this is the very result to which the Grand Lodge of Florida arrived in its decision in the case of Orion Lodge; and that the Grand Lodge of Florida has surrendered all jurisdiction over Orion Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Georgia, where she has been received and adopted. But your committee does not consider the words in italics as any argument to disprove the practice of one Grand Lodge establishing Lodges within the territorial limits of another Grand Lodge. In some of the cases cited, we admit there might not have existed at the time any '*constitutional Masonic government*,' but the records of the Grand Lodge of Virginia incontestably prove that she established and exercised jurisdiction over several Lodges in the State of North Carolina, long after the establishment of a Grand Lodge in that State. *And the resolution of*

1797, *quoted, admits the practice*: 'Resolved, that the Grand Lodge of Virginia make it an invariable rule in *future*,' etc., and at this day the Grand Lodge of Virginia exercises jurisdiction over Alexandria, Washington Lodge, No. 22, in the District of Columbia. Your committee now hope that our sister Grand Lodge of New York will distinguish that there is a difference between *proving* and *disapproving* the practice of one Grand Lodge establishing subordinate Lodges within the territorial jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge.

"Your committee observe with pleasure the progress of Freemasonry in our sister Republic of Texas, and are particularly gratified by the perusal of the interesting report of W. Brother George K. Teulor, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and recently a special delegate to the Grand Lodges of the United States and England.

"It appears from this report, that the representative system has long prevailed in Europe, and is there highly appreciated, and will doubtless ere long become the most general, as it is the most certain, medium of intercourse between all Grand Lodges throughout the world, and will prove effectual in bringing about that uniformity of work so much desired among Masons.

"The committee cannot leave this branch of their report without tendering to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas congratulations upon the advancement of that distinguished jurist and Mason, the Hon. James Webb, late United States Judge for the Southern District of Florida, to the office of Most Worshipful Grand Master.

"The committee have examined, and highly approve the proceedings of the National Masonic Convention held at Baltimore in May last, with the exception of the resolution imposing annual dues *per capita* on Masons not members of any subordinate Lodge. Your committee observe that this subject has begun to attract the attention of Grand Lodges generally; and that such assessment is favorably regarded. But it appears to your committee, seeing that Masonry is free, that every brother should be at liberty to continue or withdraw from membership as best suited his own feelings and interest, without being subject to any dues or fine. We admit the justice of the rule that 'those who do not benefit the Craft shall not be benefited by the Craft,' and, therefore, consider restrictions on visitation as the better remedy.

"But your committee, waiting for further light, recommended the adoption of the resolution submitted by the convention at Baltimore 'for the organization and establishing a Grand convention of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons.'

"*Resolved*, By the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida, that the 'rules for the organization and establishing a Grand convention of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons,' as proposed by the convention of Masons at the meeting in May, in the year 1843, in the city of Baltimore, composed of eight sections; as the same are set forth in the

printed proceedings thereof, be, and the same are hereby adopted by this Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOS. BROWN,
"J. B. LANCASTER, } Committee."
"J. P. DUVAL,

Upon the question being put, the report was received, and the resolution adopted.

Brother Sibley, from the select committee on the "*New Masonic Trestle-Board*," made the following report :

"The undersigned, select committee appointed to examine and report upon the *New Masonic Trestle-Board*, prepared by order of the National Masonic Convention, held at Baltimore in May last, have, as far as their other imperative duties permitted, examined the same. Fully impressed with the great importance of some uniform system of work for the Fraternity throughout the United States, and looking with confidence to the high Masonic source from which this work comes, they are strongly inclined to hail it, as well designed to accomplish that desirable object. Yet they must confess that, during the present session of the Grand Lodge, it will be impossible for them to give to it that thorough examination its importance demands, and which alone would justify your committee in recommending its adoption by the Lodges under this jurisdiction.

"The committee, therefore, beg leave to submit the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, By the Grand Lodge of Florida, that the Most Worshipful Grand Master appoint some brother well qualified to perform the duty, who shall visit Baltimore and other Northern cities during the present year, and obtain all the information in regard to a uniform system of work in all the degrees, which can be obtained, for the benefit of this Grand Lodge, and all the Lodges under its jurisdiction, and that a sum which shall be sufficient, be appropriated out of the Grand Lodge funds to defray the expenses of such a mission.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"S. S. SIBLEY, W. M. Jackson Lodge, No. 1.
"G. W. BRUTON, W. M. Washington Lodge, No. 2.
"F. R. PITTMAN, proxy, &c., Harmony Lodge, No. 3.
"T. HAYWARD, W. M. Coe Lodge, No. 13."

Which, being read, was received, and the resolution adopted.

And thereupon the Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brother R. W. Thomas Hayward, late special Grand Lecturer to the convention of Grand Lecturers at Baltimore in May last, to perform that duty.

Brother John P. Duval, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, offered sundry amendments to the constitution of the Grand Lodge, which were read and passed by the requisite vote, and lie over until the next Grand annual communication.

Brother R. W. John B. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master, offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Masters and Wardens of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, and Coe Lodge, No. 13, in the city of Tallahassee, be a committee to make arrangements with the male and female schools now kept in the Masonic Hall, for the education of such children of worthy Master Masons and others as may be needy, to be paid for out of the rents of the rooms thus used and occupied."

On motion, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, to meet again this evening at seven o'clock, to hear the oration and to perform the ceremonies of installation.

WEDNESDAY, January 10, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and a large concourse of members, visitors, and citizens assembled in the Grand Lodge room, where the ceremony of installation was performed in a very solemn and impressive manner, agreeably to ancient Masonic usage, by M. W. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master, and after a fervent and appropriate address to the throne of Divine Grace by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain, and inspiring music, a very eloquent oration was delivered by Brother Robert W. White.

The congregation then retired, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Brother R. W. Thomas Hayward offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

" *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Brother R. W. White for the very handsome and eloquent oration, delivered by him before the Craft this evening, and that the Grand Secretary be requested to call on Brother White, and ask him for a copy for publication."

Brother Bryan, from the committee on Finance and Accounts, made the following report :

"The committee on Finance and Accounts recommend the payment of the following sums, incurred since the last Grand annual communication :

"To R. W. Thomas Hayward, late Grand Lecturer, the sum of \$26 50, expended by him in attendance on the National Masonic Convention in May last, in Baltimore.

"To Brother Thomas Brown, Grand Secretary, for his services at this Grand communication, the sum of \$50.

"To the Grand Tyler, for his services, \$25.

"To the Grand Secretary, the sum expended by him for postage and stationery, \$7 18 $\frac{1}{2}$; and for candles, fuel, etc., \$10.

"And that the Grand Secretary be authorized to adjust, settle, and pay all accounts against the Grand Lodge during its recess, and make report of the same to the next Grand annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"ELIJAH BRYAN, }
"SAM. S. SIBLEY, } *Committee.*"

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM and with prayer, until the next annual communication.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

THOS. BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*

The Grand Master has been pleased to appoint Brothor Robert S. Hayward to deliver the oration at the installation of Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Florida, at the next Grand annual communication

CIRCULAR LETTER TO THE LODGES IN FLORIDA.

“Grand Lodge of the Territory of Florida,”
May 15, A. L. 5844.

“TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER, WARDENS, AND BRETHREN OF _____ LODGE No. _____
AND TO THE BRETHREN RESIDING WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION :

“*Beloved Brethren* :—The undersigned were appointed at the last Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, a committee to prepare and address a letter to the brethren under its jurisdiction ; to be published with its proceedings, for the purpose of arousing the Fraternity from the state of inaction and torpor, in which Masonry seems to be spell-bound in Florida. We approach the performance of this duty with a deep conviction of its importance, and a full consciousness of our inability to do it justice.

“You will see from the proceedings which this letter accompanies, that the Grand Lodge of Florida is in correspondence with all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and with the Grand Lodge of Texas ; and that they all furnish the most cheering accounts of the flourishing condition of Masonry everywhere. Shall Florida alone be the region where Freemasonry languishes and dies, or at best drags out a feeble existence ? No ! brethren, we feel assured you will awake from your slumbers, and come up to the great and glorious work of rebuilding the house of the Lord. Would to God we could touch your hearts as with a live coal from off the altar, that would kindle a blaze of holy enthusiasm in your bosoms in the cause of glorious Freemasonry in our sunny Florida.

“We call to our aid, brethren, a circular letter, addressed by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York to the brethren residing within their jurisdiction, which accomplishes the task assigned us much better than we could perform it, and breathes the right spirit in glowing and eloquent strains ; and which we engraft into our letter, and recommend it to the most serious consideration of every brother :

“The annual publication of our transactions, which shortly will be placed in your hands, will, we trust, receive your attention and serious reflection. We wish every Mason in the State to be made acquainted with these transactions ; every one is to some extent interested in them. We, therefore, earnestly enjoin upon the Masters of all Lodges that they cause them to be read in open Lodge as early as possible ; and we desire that they may have free circulation amongst the brethren, whether members of Lodges or not ; and we earnestly call upon every brother to whom these letters become known, to arouse from the apathy which has held down the Fraternity in gloom and shadow, to revive his energies, and to unite with us in our effort to renew the ancient glories of the Order, and to rebuild the great edifice upon the original foundation of obedience to the laws of God and our country, and love towards each other.

“In this work, which has most assuredly commenced, let no true brother suppose he may excuse himself from bearing his part ; indeed, we are convinced no true brother can shrink from his duty and yet claim an interest in the honors and rewards that await the faithful Craftsman. In our beloved and venerable Grand Master, who, on the verge of ninety years of age, and after enjoying the highest honors of the State, and some of the highest of the nation, still finds a pleasure in promoting the prosperity of the Craft, we have an example of what a *Mason ought to be*, “without fear and without reproach.” Let, then, every brother encourage his brother to come forth to the work before us.

“Think not, however, brethren, that we regard numbers as a means or an evidence of prosperity or of strength. A few Lodges, with a few members thoroughly imbued with the principles of the Order, faithful and punctual in the discharge of their duties, would be preferable to a large number of Lodges with numerous members, yet loose in their discipline, and either uninstructed in the principles of the Masonic covenant, or careless in their performance.

“The Grand Lodge has been highly gratified by the evidence that not only many

brethren have given their attention to the means calculated to improve the institution and preserve its preëminent position in the rapid advance of the age, but whole Lodges have united in serious reflection on the subject, and have asked us to encourage them in their exertions, by our approbation. These exertions—every movement which has been made to make the wants and wishes of the Fraternity known to us—have afforded us the very highest satisfaction, and have convinced us that the time for action has fully arrived; the time which we have long desired, and for which the legislation of the Grand Lodge for the last twelve years has been preparatory. Every Lodge, and every individual brother has a duty to perform in the great work which lies open before us. Unite with us, then, beloved brethren, in the first place, as is the duty of Masons, in beseeching the sovereign spirit of truth and love to guide us in wisdom and in the path of peace. Secondly, let every brother give unceasing attention to the cultivation of concord, and to the promotion of the happiness and prosperity of his brother. Let all strifes and discords be discontinued, and terminated by the sweet influences of friendship and charity; so shall we dwell together as a happy family, and secure to each other the full enjoyment of the noble purposes of our institution. Thirdly, we would impress upon the brethren the duty of introducing into the fellowship of the Order only such persons from the profane world as have the proper preparation of mind and heart, to fit them for a place in the edifice which we are erecting for the glory of the Supreme Architect of the universe, and for the services of the human family. Fourthly, we call upon the officers of all the Lodges within our jurisdiction to use every influence in their power to perfect their organization, to impart instruction, to exercise necessary discipline, and to inform us, *at least once or twice a year* of their true condition, their work, their prospects, the changes which have occurred, the difficulties which they have encountered, and the success which has attended their exertions.'

"Finally, brethren, we cannot impress too deeply on your minds the importance of a strict attention to the truths so ably set forth in the foregoing extract. Remember, they are urged by the most distinguished and experienced Masons in the United States, and the truest friends of our Order.

"You must be forcibly struck with the strong resemblance in character and circumstances between 'our beloved and venerable Grand Master,' who has so long presided over and sustained the Craft in Florida, and the distinguished and venerable Grand Master who then presided over the Craft in the State of New York, but who has since been called to his station in the Grand Lodge above. They are both truly bright examples in the Craft, 'of what Masons ought to be, without fear, and without reproach.' Let us, brethren, profit by their example, both for their zeal and their virtues.

"JOHN B. TAYLOR, P. D. G. M.

"THOS. HAYWARD, Grand Lecturer.

"THOS. BROWN, Grand Secretary."

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 13, 1845.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At an annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the thirteenth day of January, A. L. 5845, A. D. 1845.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Senior Warden*.
R. W. ELIJAH BRYAN, *Grand Junior Warden*.
R. Rev. GEO. C. S. JOHNSON, *Grand Chaplain*.
R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, *Grand Treasurer pro tem*.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.
W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, *Grand Senior Deacon pro tem*.
W. FREDERICK R. PITTMAN, *Grand Junior Deacon*.
Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, *Grand Tyler*.

And P. G. M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL and JOHN B. TAYLOR, and a number of representatives and brethren.

The Grand Secretary having reported that the representatives and proxies of a constitutional number of Lodges were in attendance, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain. And the Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brothers Shine, White, and Johnson a committee on Returns and Credentials, who reported that they had examined the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, which they found correct and in proper form, viz. :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Alexander J. Fisher, Worshipful Master ; Richard A. Shine, Senior Warden ; John D. Galbreath, Junior Warden ; John P. Duval, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Robert E. Gibson, Representative ; John M. Galt, proxy for Junior Warden.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Elijah Bryan, Worshipful Master ; Allen H. Bush, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Harry R. Taylor, Representative ; J. N. Cummings, Junior Warden.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Isaac H. Bronson, Representative.

From Coe Lodge, No. 13, U. D.—John B. Taylor, Worshipful Master ; G. C. S. Johnson, Junior Warden.

From Madison Lodge, No. 11, U. D.—C. C. Coffee, Worshipful Master ; John Westcott, Senior Warden ; Thos. Harbridge, Junior Warden.

From Dade Lodge, No. 14, U. D.—Geo. W. McRae, Worshipful Master ; Alexander Patterson, Senior Warden.

The Grand Master then appointed the following standing committees, viz. :

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers FISHER, GALBREATH, and GALT.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers H. R. TAYLOR, BRONSON, McRAE, FORWARD, and JOHN B. TAYLOR.

On By-Laws and Dispensations—Brothers BRYAN, GIBSON, and McGEHEE.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers DUVAL, PATTERSON, and PITTMAN.

On Education—Brothers BROWN, BUSH, FORWARD, and HARTRIDGE.

On Work—Brothers HARRY R. TAYLOR, JOHN B. TAYLOR, and SHINE.

Brother Duval presented sundry resolutions, which were received, and referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, which was referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Grand Secretary also reported that a dispensation had been granted, by authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to revive Madison Lodge, No. 11, U. D., which had been dormant for several years on account of our late Indian disturbances.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock this evening.

MONDAY, January 13, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The committee on By-Laws and Dispensations made a favorable report upon the proceedings and by-laws of Madison Lodge, No. 11, and Lodge No. 14, U. D., and recommended that charters be granted to them, which was received and charters ordered to be issued.

PUBLIC INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

On motion, it was ordered that the installation of the Grand Officers, to be elected for the ensuing year, be performed in public ; on which occasion an oration will be delivered by Brother R. E. Little, appointed Grand Orator for the occasion ; and

On motion, Brothers Harry R. Taylor, Robert W. White, and Alexander J. Fisher were appointed a committee to make suitable arrangements for the occasion.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Accounts reported that they had examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and that they found them correct, and properly supported by vouchers. Which was received and approved.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at three o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 14, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday, and a number of members and brethren.

The special committee of Arrangements reported that they had made arrangements for the installation of the Grand Officers, and the oration, at the Presbyterian church, to-morrow at twelve o'clock, M., when suitable music for the occasion will be provided.

On motion, the committee of Arrangements were instructed to invite His Excellency, the Governor and the Secretary of State of the Territory, and the officers of the government, the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House, and the members and officers of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida. The judges and officers of the Court of Appeals, and members of the Bar, and distinguished strangers, to meet the Grand Lodge at the door of the Masonic Hall, at half-past eleven o'clock to-morrow, and march in procession to the Presbyterian church; where the citizens generally are invited to attend at twelve o'clock, to witness the ceremony of installation, and hear the oration.

The resolution introduced by Brother John P. Duval on the powers of subordinate Lodges to try their Masters and Wardens; which was referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances, was, on motion, withdrawn from that committee and referred to the committee on Foreign Correspondence; and

On motion, Brother Duval was added to that committee.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until this evening, at seven o'clock.

TUESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before, and a number of members and brethren.

The special committee which had been appointed to make inquiry into and report the causes of delinquency of certain Lodges in this jurisdiction, report that Farmers' Lodge, No. 4, and Hiram Lodge, No. 5, are defunct, by causes beyond their control, and recommend that the Most Worshipful Grand Master appoint some Master Mason to take charge of their warrants, jewels, and furniture.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 9, and Planter's Lodge, No. 10, U. D., the committee find have never used their dispensations from the same causes, which have existed in both cases for more than two years.

And, after some action upon propositions to amend the constitution of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Whereupon, the following brothers were declared duly elected, viz. :

- M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
- R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Assistant Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. ELIJAH BRYAN, Grand Senior Warden.
- R. W. GEO. W. McRAE, Grand Junior Warden.
- R. Rev. PEYTON P. SMITH, Grand Chaplain.
- R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Lecturer.
- R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
- W. JOHN WESTCOTT, Grand Senior Deacon.
- W. HENRY WHEATON, Grand Junior Deacon.

And the M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

- Brothers JOHN G. CAMP and SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, Grand Marshals.
- Brothers WM. S. McGEHEE and R. E. GIBSON, Grand Stewards.
- Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, eleven o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before, and a number of members and brethren.

And, after the transaction of some business, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment for the purpose of forming the procession, which was arranged under the direction of Major John G. Camp, chief Grand Marshal ; and, after leaving the Grand Lodge room, was joined by the officers and members of the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative officers of the government, and proceeded to the Presbyterian church,

where the ceremonies of installation were performed according to ancient usage, and an eloquent and impressive oration was delivered by Brother Little, the Grand Orator, with the assistance of the choir and a selected band of amateur musicians. The Masonic procession then returned to the Grand Lodge room, when the Craft were called to labor.

When the following resolutions were offered by Brother James A. Berthelot, and unanimously adopted :

“Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the trustees of the Presbyterian church of this city, and the choir of the church, for the use of the church, and the assistance of the choir in the ceremonies of installation and the oration.

“Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the amateur Band of musicians of this city for its soul-inspiring music, so politely and appropriately furnished.

“Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to our highly esteemed Brother, the Rev. W. Perry, for the solemn, impressive, and truly Masonic services rendered by him in the ceremonies of installation.

By Brother Robert W. White :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to Brother R. E. Little, Grand Orator, for the able, eloquent, and classic address delivered by him before the Fraternity and citizens on this occasion ; and that a committee be appointed to call on him, and request a copy for publication with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Whereupon, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers White, Berthelot, and Stephens, on said committee.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, January 16, eleven o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master as Grand Master.

R. W. ELIJAH BRYAN, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. GEORGE W. MCRAE, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

W. JOHN WESTCOTT, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. ALLEN H. BUSH, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

P. G. M. JOHN P. DUVAL and JOHN B. TAYLOR, and many members and brethren.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother Harry R. Taylor, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, which was read, as follows :

“Your committee have had before them communications from the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Georgia, New Hampshire, Maryland,

Alabama, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, Connecticut, Ohio, Arkansas, Iowa, New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and the Republic of Texas. But the time necessarily allowed your committee to investigate the whole correspondence submitted to them, is entirely inadequate to a proper consideration of the various interesting subjects which require their attention. A hasty review of them, however, enables your committee to congratulate the friends of Masonry on the brightening prospects which are everywhere presented. The hand of renovation is seen in her dilapidated halls. The ashes that have long covered her sacred altars have been removed, and the holy flame is seen thereon to glow in all its former brightness, giving new light and life to all who behold and feel its genial influence.

"No new subjects since the report of a similar committee at the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge have been presented, which seem to claim the special notice of your committee. The Grand Lodges of Alabama, Kentucky, and Mississippi, are exciting praiseworthy efforts to extend the benefits of education to the orphans of deceased, and children of destitute Masons.

"The committee have before them a circular from Brother John Dove, President of the Baltimore Masonic Convention; also, one from Brother Charles W. Moore, embracing a letter addressed to him by Brother L. W. B. Carnegie, on the subject of the publication of the *Trestle-Board*. This seems to be a personal controversy between Brothers Dove and Moore, which, in the opinion of your committee, can only be decided, as far as the Grand Lodge of Florida is concerned in the appeal of these brothers, by its adoption, or rejection of the work published by Brother Moore, as the *New Trestle-Board*.

"In order that the published proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges, in the communications addressed to this Grand Lodge, may annually receive that consideration which is due to them, and that the subjects they contain may be more fully presented to its officers and members, and through them to the officers and members of the subordinate Lodges, your committee would recommend that a committee be appointed before the close of this Grand Lodge, to be called a special committee on Communications, to act during the recess of the Grand Lodge; and that it be the duty of the Grand Secretary, at least thirty days before the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, to hand over to said committee all communications that may be received by him, to be reported upon to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"HARRY R. TAYLOR, *Chairman*."

Which being adopted, the following committee was appointed as an annual standing committee on Foreign Correspondence, viz.: Brothers Duval, John B. Taylor, R. A. Shine, and Thomas Brown.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until this evening, at seven o'clock.

THURSDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as in the forenoon, and many members and brethren.

And after the transaction of local matters in regard to the adjustment and payment of accounts and claims against the Grand Lodge, and the payment of services of Grand Officers, it was closed in peace and harmony.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF A SPECIAL COMMUNICATION
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, June 23, 1845.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

At a special communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the twenty-third day of June, A. L. 5845, A. D. 1845.

Grand Officers present :

- R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.
- R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Asst. Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Senior Warden.
- R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem.*
- R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
- W. PETER HOBERT, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem.*
- W. R. W. B. HODSON, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem.*

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

And sundry members, representatives, and brethren.

The Grand Secretary reported that a constitutional number of Lodges were duly represented.

Whereupon, the Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM, and with prayer.

The Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brothers Berthelot, Hobert, and Hodson a committee on Credentials, who reported that they had examined the credentials of representatives from the following Lodges, which they find in form, and entitled to due credence, viz. :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Richard A. Shine, Senior Warden.

From Coe Lodge, No. 13—John B. Taylor, Worshipful Master.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Samuel B. Stephens, Worshipful Master; James L. Smallwood, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—R. W. B. Hodson, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Geo. S. Hawkins, Representative.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Thomas Brown, proxy for Worshipful Master.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge the following communications, which were read and laid on the table, viz. :

"From R. W. James Herring, Grand Secretary, of the Grand Lodge of New York, on the subject of the Representative system.

"From R. W. Moses Johnson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, and from R. W. George K. Tulon, K. T., representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas at Calcutta, communicating an extract from a letter received from R. W. J. J. L. Hoff, Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal."

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, June 24, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.

R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

W. ROBERT K. WEST, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. R. W. B. HODSON, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

P. G. M. GEE, BUTLER, DUVAL, and J. B. TAYLOR, and a number of members and brethren.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master read the following address :

"BRETHREN :—In the commencement of the work before us, at the present communication of the Grand Lodge, it is meet and proper for us to acknowledge the many favors and blessings of a kind Providence, experienced by us individually, and in the prosperity of our Craft throughout the world ; and especially in our own beloved country.

"The persecutions in former years, waged against our Order, have been stayed, and again the light of Masonry, with rekindling brightness, is beaming upon and blessing the nation.

"A happy change has also taken place in our political condition, and this day we can congratulate ourselves upon the organization of an independent State government, freed from the shackles of federal restraint.

"How meet and proper is the present occasion for the commencement

of more energetic efforts in the cause of Masonry, a work which, whilst it holds fast by the old landmarks, should, looking to the high objects for which it is instituted, keep even pace with the improvement of our political condition.

At our former communications, much has been said, and something has been done, in regard to amending the constitution and by-laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge ; but it is respectfully suggested that much still remains to be done in relation to this matter, and that the present occasion is peculiarly appropriate to complete it. Very few copies of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida are now to be found, being nearly out of print—and the amendments and acts of the Grand Lodge, made since its publication, are only to be found in the published proceedings, as they have been annually made ; and, although these are to the subordinate Lodges paramount law, they are, nevertheless, in a great degree unknown to them, or not susceptible of being readily referred to. In view of these facts, the attention of the Grand Lodge is directed to the propriety either of the revision and republication of the old constitution, with the amendments, or of the formation of a new constitution.

"The project of the erection of a Grand Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, was brought before us at the last communication of the Grand Lodge, and a committee was appointed in reference thereto, who, it is believed, have performed the work assigned to them. Upon this subject further action should be immediately taken. It is to be hoped that no disposition to delay will be permitted to retard the progress of this work, which is deemed of much importance to the interests of Masonry in Florida, and particularly appropriate at the present time.

"It will probably be deemed proper at this meeting to change the time, designated by the constitution, for the annual communication of the Grand Lodge ; and this subject is, therefore, respectfully suggested to your consideration, and with all other subjects touching the prosperity of Masonry under this jurisdiction, in which you will have my hearty coöperation as long as it shall be the will of the GRAND MASTER above to give me strength to labor in the cause of glorious Freemasonry on earth."

On motion of R. W. Harry R. Taylor, a committee was appointed, consisting of Brothers H. R. Taylor, Shine, Stephens, Hodson, Hawkins, Brown, and J. B. Taylor, to take into consideration the subjects referred to in the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, with instruction to report at this communication.

Brother John B. Taylor offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Hon. James Webb, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, be appointed the representative of the Grand Lodge of Florida near the Grand Lodge of Texas, in compliance with the recommendation of said Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That P. G. M. Duval be nominated to the Grand Lodge of Texas, as a suitable brother to be appointed by that Grand Lodge as its representative near this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Brother James A. Berthelot is recognized as the representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, near this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Lodge of New York be requested to nominate some suitable brother to be appointed by this Grand Lodge as its representative near that Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge communicate to R. W. Geo. K. Tulon, representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near the Grand Lodge of Bengal, and through him to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal, the brotherly greetings of this Grand Lodge, and to assure them of the Masonic feeling with which we reciprocate their courtesy."

The Grand Secretary announced to the Grand Lodge the afflicting intelligence which reached this city this morning, of the death of General Andrew Jackson, distinguished as the "man who filled the measure of his country's glory," and particularly dear to the Fraternity as Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Tennessee, and an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

Whereupon, on motion, a committee, consisting of P. G. M. Butler, Gee, Duval, Taylor, and Grand Master Coe, was appointed to prepare and report suitable resolutions for the occasion.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until eight o'clock this evening.

TUESDAY, June 24, eight o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before.

Brother Robert Butler, from the special committee appointed this morning on the occasion of the death of General Jackson, reported the following :

"The mournful intelligence this day communicated to the Grand Lodge of Florida, of the death of General ANDREW JACKSON, is of a character to fill the whole nation with grief, so far as human frailty is concerned—because a great man has fallen in Israel, and a nation is called upon to lament a hero, patriot, and statesman dead. But they only mourn for the dust that has returned to its mother earth, while the mighty spirit, having burst asunder the bands of mortality, has soared to the Grand Lodge above, to join the fraternity of patriots and statesmen who have gone before, to live in immortal glory, beyond the reach of human sympathy.

"The eighth day of January will ever be memorable as the day a soldier achieved a victory which 'filled the measure of his country's glory,' and the eighth of June will be ever memorable as the day the greatest man of this age closed his mortal career, bequeathing an immortal name to his country.

Resolved, That the memory of ANDREW JACKSON will ever be cherished by the Masonic Fraternity of Florida, as a Past Grand Master and an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, of the city of Tallahassee, and the first Governor of the Territory of Florida, and always its steadfast friend.

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of sixty days."

Which was read, and after a few appropriate remarks by Brother Butler—who was one of General Jackson's Adjutants-General—was unanimously adopted.

The following declaration, prepared by M. W. Brother Robert Butler, to be spread on the minutes of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, is also entitled to a place in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

DECLARATION.

"It has been a custom coëval with Masonry, to notice, in a proper manner, the demise of the members of our Craft, and when, within suitable distance, to extend to their remains Masonic obsequies; marking in the eyes of the world *that* love which brethren of our Order should ever hold one to another. Death! that destroyer of all terrestrial beings, has, through the hand of time, gained admittance into our Masonic sanctuary, and taken forth in the person of ANDREW JACKSON, ex-President of the United States, a jeweled Past Grand Master 'to that country from whose bourne no traveler returns.' Masons who may follow in our footsteps for ages to come, will seek to know who, and what he was. How apposite is it for us of this tabernacle, called after his name through our love for him, that we, of Jackson Lodge should place on our records a short, though feeble, demonstration of our admiration of him while living, and our regret at his demise.

"This distinguished Mason, this true patriot, this upright citizen, this able jurist and judge, this gallant General, this Roman statesman, this pious Christian, who 'has filled the measure of his country's glory,' was born in the State of South Carolina, on the fifteenth day of March, A. L. 5767, A. D. 1767, and departed this life at the Hermitage, on the evening of the eighth day of June, 1845. His end was peaceful; reposing his head on the bosom of Jesus, who made his bed 'soft as downy pillows are,' his spirit now dwells in that 'Grand Lodge where the MIGHTY GOD is GRAND MASTER; a Lodge 'not made with hands eternal in the heavens.' It may be here remembered, that our brother was the first Governor of the Territory of Florida, after the exchange of flags, and now we behold the first act of the General Assembly of the STATE OF FLORIDA is, the passage of resolutions on the occasion of his death. To history belongs the faithful record of his services in the various relations he filled during an eventful life. The Saviour has said, 'weep not for the dead;' and our brother rejoiced at his departure; and while we mourn his absence, may we feel 'the joy of grief,' in the assurance that his spirit is released and made happy, as one of the just made perfect, in the realms of eternal bliss, where 'the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.' Then let us, with one accord, place our hands upon our hearts in token of our love for his memory, and bow with reverence and submission to the will of

our GREAT ARCHITECT, in removing him, and say to the world, peace be to his ashes. *So mote it be.*

“ROBERT BUTLER,

P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 1.”

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until tomorrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, June 25, eleven o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday.

The special committee appointed to take into consideration the subjects referred to in the address of the M. W. Grand Master, made the following report :

“The special committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, having considered so much thereof as recommends an alteration or amendment of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, recommend, as the most effectual method, that a committee be appointed to prepare a new constitution, to be submitted to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, for acceptance, and submission to the subordinate Lodges for their adoption.

“The next subject adverted to in the address, claiming the attention of the committee, is the erection of a Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee.

“The committee beg leave to suggest that, inasmuch as the present is only a special communication of the Grand Lodge, at which all the subordinate Lodges are not fully represented, and as the subject is already before a committee of the Grand Lodge, appointed at the last annual communication, who have acted on the subject, and addressed a circular to all the subordinate Lodges ; your committee cannot perceive that any further action at this time would be calculated to give any additional facility to the undertaking, except it be by general recommendation to all the subordinate Lodges, and to the Craft generally, to give the subject a serious and zealous consideration prior to the next annual communication, when we trust the report will be of a most encouraging character.

“On the subject of the time for the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, the committee refer the consideration of that subject to the committee to be charged with the draft of a new constitution—except that the committee would recommend that the next annual communication be fixed for the first Monday after the regular meeting of the General Assembly of the State of Florida, as provided in the State Constitution ; and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to give to all the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, notice of the same.

“All of which is respectfully submitted,

“H. R. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*”

Which was read and approved ; and Brothers H. R. Taylor, Brown, and Duval, were appointed the committee to draft a new constitution for the Grand Lodge of Florida, to be submitted to the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, and formed in line of procession, under the direction of the Grand Marshals, and proceeded to the State Capitol, where the ceremonies of the inauguration of the

Governor-elect of the State of Florida was performed, and then returned in the same order to the Grand Lodge room, and were called to labor.

Brother George W. Macrae, representative of Dade Lodge, No. 14, at Key West, and Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Florida, presented the following resolutions, which were ordered to be spread on the minutes of the Grand Lodge :

" At a stated meeting of Dade Lodge, No. 14, held in the lodge-room, in Key West, on Wednesday evening, June 11, A. L. 5845, among other matters the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

" *Resolved*, That this Lodge do fully concur in the spirit and object of the circular address of the select committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida, acting under a resolution thereof, recommending the erection of a Grand Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, and that heartily responding to the appeal made by the committee to the Lodges and brethren within this jurisdiction, they will cheerfully contribute of their limited means to the funds of the Grand Lodge, with a view to the accomplishment of the proposed object.

" *Resolved*, That the Treasurer of this Lodge pay out of any funds of the Lodge in his hands the sum of fifty-eight dollars to our representative, to be by him paid into the treasury of the Grand Lodge, as a part of a fund that is to be exclusively applied to the erection of a Grand Masonic Hall.

" *Resolved*, That although we cannot come up to the building of the temple at our Masonic Jerusalem, we pledge ourselves to continue from time to time to contribute of our ability towards the ways and means necessary for its erection, and we will endeavor to do so 'with a zeal and perseverance that shall not tire until the completion of the work,' provided that our brethren elsewhere, within the same jurisdiction, will afford us the expected evidence of their coöperation in this wise and noble undertaking.

" *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be duly certified, and communicated through our representative to the ensuing special communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

" A true copy.

" BENJAMIN SAWYER, *Worshipful Master*.

" CHRISTIAN BOYCE, *Secretary*."

There appearing no further business before this special communication, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, until the regular annual communication.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, December 1, 1845.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

At an annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Florida, begun and held in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the first day of December, A. L. 5845, A. D. 1845.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. ELIJAH BRYAN, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. JAMES L. FINLEY, Jr., Grand Junior Warden.

R. Rev. PETTON P. SMITH, Grand Chaplain.

R. W. ALEXANDER J. FISHER, Grand Treasurer *pro tem.*

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

W. SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem.*

W. JAMES BARRY, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem.*

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

And a number of representatives, members, and brethren.

The Grand Secretary having announced that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *due form*, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master then appointed Brothers Fisher and Coffee a committee on Returns and Credentials, who reported that they had examined the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, which they found correct and according to form, viz.:

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Alexander J. Fisher, Worshipful Master ; Richard A. Shine, Senior Warden ; J. A. Edmondson, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Elijah Bryan, Worshipful Master ; James L. Finley, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—R. J. Floyd, proxy for Worshipful Master ; Robert Myers, Representative.

From Madison Lodge, No. 11—Peyton P. Smith, Worshipful Master ;
C. C. Coffee, Representative.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Bartolo Oliveros, Representative.

From Coe Lodge, No. 13—John G. Camp, Representative.

From Dade Lodge, No. 14—Thomas Brown, proxy for Worshipful Master.

From Escambia Lodge, U. D., No. 15—W. M. J. Kelly, Representative.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, which was received and referred to the committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Grand Master then appointed the following standing committees, viz.:

On Finance and Accounts—Brothers CAMP, BRYAN, and WHITE.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers BROWN, CAMP, and FLOYD.

On By-Laws and Dispensations—Brothers BRYAN, BERRY, and EDMONDSON.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers FINLEY and GALBRAITH.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers BERRY and SMITH.

On motion, the correspondence reported by the Grand Secretary was referred to the committee on Foreign Correspondence, appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge, to act in the recess and report to this session of the Grand Lodge ; and the committee just appointed was discharged from the consideration of the subject.

After the transaction of other matters, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday.

Brother Smith, from the committee on the Amendments to the Constitution, made a report, which was received and read, and, after some time spent thereon, the amendments were adopted, and the constitution, as amended, was ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until this evening, at seven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as before.

After the transaction of some business, on motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following named brothers were declared duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. BENJAMIN F. NOURSE, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. JAMES L. FINLEY, Grand Junior Warden.
R. Rev. PETTON P. SMITH, Grand Chaplain.

On motion, the further election of Grand Officers was postponed until to-morrow.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

THURSDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as on yesterday.

Brother John G. Camp, representative from Coe Lodge, No. 13, presented the following memorial, which was read, considered, and adopted :

" TO THE M. W. GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA :

" Your memorialist would most respectfully represent, that—

" *Whereas*, There are two chartered Lodges in the city of Tallahassee, to wit : Jackson Lodge, No. 1, and Coe Lodge, No. 13, and,

" *Whereas*, The population of this city is not sufficiently large to keep up two Lodges with profit and credit to the Craft—and the objects which caused the institution of Coe Lodge, No. 13, have been accomplished—and,

" *Whereas*, The members of Coe Lodge are now reduced, by withdrawals and removals, to below the requisite number of Master Masons to support a Lodge, it is the desire of the present members of said Lodge to surrender their warrant to the Grand Lodge whence they received it, upon the Grand Lodge remitting the sum of eighty dollars, loaned to Coe Lodge to pay for its warrant, and which the funds of Coe Lodge are insufficient to repay, so that the now few members of Coe Lodge may return to Jackson Lodge, to which they originally belonged.

" The M. W. Grand Lodge of Florida is therefore respectfully petitioned to take back the warrant of Coe Lodge, No. 13, with whatever little amount of jewels and furniture she has, and to remit whatever demands she may have against said Lodge.

" And your memorialist will ever pray, etc.,

" JOHN G. CAMP."

Whereupon, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to receive from the Worshipful Master and Wardens of Coe Lodge, No. 13, its warrant, books and papers, jewels and furniture, and that all claims due from Coe Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Florida are hereby remitted."

P. G. M. John P. Duval offered the following preamble and resolution, which were unanimously adopted :

"Whereas, Brother Benjamin G. Thornton, a Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and a member of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, of Tallahassee, was, some years since, expelled by said Lodge, for a difficulty with a Master Mason, a member also of said Lodge, in which his character, as a man and a Mason, was not implicated; and,

"Whereas, Satisfactory evidence has been presented to this Grand Lodge that the sentence of expulsion of the said Benjamin G. Thornton was oppressive and unjust, therefore, be it

"Resolved by this Grand Lodge, That the character of the said Benjamin G. Thornton is unimpeached, and that he be restored to all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry."

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers who were not elected on yesterday, when the following brothers were declared duly elected :

R. W. HARRY B. TAYLOR, Grand Lecturer.
R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
W. HENRY WHARTON, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. C. C. COFFEE, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

FRIDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

The Grand Master presiding made the following appointments :

Brother JOHN G. CAMP, Grand Marshal.
Brothers R. B. GIBSON and A. J. FISHER, Grand Stewards.
Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers-elect and appointed were duly installed, according to ANCIENT FORM and usage.

The report of the committee on Accounts was received and approved, and a report from the special committee on the subject of the Masonic Hall, and an appropriation of the rents of the academy department to the education of the children of deceased and destitute Masons, was received and approved. The committee on Foreign Correspondence not being prepared to report,

On motion, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Saturday, the thirteenth instant.

SATURDAY, December 13, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. JOHN D. GALBRAITH, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. ROBERT W. WHITE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

W. J. A. EDMONDSON, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. FRANCIS WIENKLER, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

And many members, representatives, and brethren.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother John P. Duval, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report from that committee, which was read and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge :

"The committee beg leave to report, that since the last annual communication they have received the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New York, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Kentucky, Indiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Texas ; and the *History, Spirit, and Tendency of Freemasonry*, by R. W. H. S. Cooley, Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. These documents have been examined with much care. We select such subjects from the mass of these interesting communications as we deem important to the Masonic Fraternity.

NEW YORK.

"Since the last annual communication, four regularly warranted and constituted Lodges under the Grand Lodge of New York, and located in Michigan, have, with the approbation of the Grand Master, held a convention, and organized the Grand Lodge for the State of Michigan in a regular manner.

"We regret to notice the following unmasonic censure of the Grand Lodges of Alabama and Mississippi, in the annual address of the M. W. Grand Master of New York. He says, 'I must call your serious attention to the deliberate decision made and published by two Grand Lodges in the United States, that it is *not* a necessary qualification for a candidate to be whole and perfect in body, as well as in mind, in order that he may be received as a brother. As plain a fundamental principle as words can express, has been here solemnly and deliberately set at naught, and with a mockery of pretended reasoning.' We consider that the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is replete with good sense, and throws back the reproach of the Grand Master of New York, not by acrimony, but by argument. The committee, in their report, state, 'Masonry originated in an age of the

world comparatively rude and barbarous ; at a time when strength of body was more valued than vigor of intellect. It was instituted by an association of men united together for the protection of physical labors. But even at this early period their ties and obligations were fraternal. This made them solicitous to exclude from the Fraternity all who were likely to become burthensome rather than useful, and consequently to require that initiates should be whole in body as well as sound in mind. But the world has changed, etc. This institution has now become speculative and moral. It has entirely lost its operative character. The reason for requiring bodily perfection in candidates has ceased to exist.' This has long since ceased to be a mooted point in Masonry. It was settled many years ago by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in the case of the Honorable John Pope, formerly of the Senate of the United States. Governor Pope had lost an arm in early life. The Grand Lodge of Kentucky adopted the following rule : 'If the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being *instructed* in the arts and mysteries of Freemasons, his admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution.' Would the Grand Lodge of New York have refused admission to her distinguished son, General Brown, late Commander-in-chief of the United States army, if the wound he received at the battle of Niagara had shattered the arm which he raised in the defense of his much loved country ? The ancient constitutions of the Order which require that a candidate for Masonry shall be whole and sound in body, also requires that all Entered Apprentices shall serve for seven years. Does the Grand Lodge of New York require the same duration of service in her subordinate Lodges, before he can become a Fellow Craft ?"

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"On the subject of Masonry, the committee on Foreign Correspondence state that their own State is moving onward. Several applications have been made for the restoration of warrants ; initiations are becoming frequent. In relation to the establishment of colleges and schools, they say—'We have only to reflect upon this subject for a moment to see where the path of duty lies.' On the *Masonic Trestle-Board* they have expressed no opinion, but recommend conciliation. On the subject of the National Convention, the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire have not yet acted, but have postponed it until the next annual communication. On the Representative system, the committee believe it promises much good to the cause of Masonry, but recommend no action on the part of the Grand Lodge. On jurisdiction of Grand Lodges and admission of citizens from other States, the committee come to the following conclusion : 'We think that the general rule should be, that Lodges in one State should not have the right to admit citizens of another ;' in this view your committee concur.

Rights of a Lodge to try its Master : 'The committee assembled at Baltimore expressed the opinion that a subordinate Lodge has not a right to try its Master. The committee concur.'

MAINE.

"On the *Trestle-Board*, no opinion expressed ; and on other subjects only cites the acts and resolutions of other Grand Lodges."

CONNECTICUT.

"On the *Trestle-Board*, no opinion expressed, but a general opposition to all publications like Masonic charts, monitors, or trestle-boards. Grand Lodge certificates the Grand Lodge considers an innovation. The Grand Lodge of Michigan is recognized and acknowledged. Delegates to Lodges of Europe ; it is proposed to take the subject into consideration."

RHODE ISLAND

"Objects to the *Trestle-Board*, because it offers two modes in funeral procession. Opposed to Grand Lodge certificates, if considered absolutely requisite before charity is granted."

MARYLAND.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence reports : That if a citizen of one State takes a degree in another State, it is irregular and a nullity, and the individual can be expelled when he returns to his proper jurisdiction. The committee report that a Grand Lodge can, by a vote which is required to change her constitution, at once suspend labor, and direct her subordinates to do likewise ; and, after the constitutional period of meeting, resume labor and organization as a legal Grand Lodge, as was done by the Grand Lodge of Michigan previous to its late organization. Exclusion of Jews from the Lodges of Prussia, and individuals, by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, on account of their religious faith, are objected to. Report in favor of Grand Lodge certificates, and General Grand Lodge of the United States. The committee offered the following resolutions, with others :

"**RESOLUTION 6—Resolved**, That an expulsion or suspension from a Lodge, Chapter, or Encampment, necessarily carries with it expulsion or suspension from the other bodies, unless such decision be repealed by the proper tribunal.

"**RESOLUTION 7—Resolved**, That if any individual, from selfish motives, from distrust of his acceptance, or other cause originating in himself, knowingly and willfully travel into another jurisdiction, and there receive Masonic degrees, he shall be considered and held as a clandestine-made Mason.

"Your committee fully accord with the propriety and Masonic correctness of the seventh resolution, but protest against the sixth resolution. We object to the tribunal. A Grand Lodge is supposed to be composed only of Master Masons, and cannot be considered as judges of the obligations and duties of Royal Arch Masons or Knights. We

consider the jurisdiction separate and distinct, and Lodges, Chapters, and Encampments, are respectively to judge and pass upon the conduct of their own members. It is known to all Royal Arch Masons and Knights that there are acts which would cause their expulsion or suspension from Chapters or Encampments, which, if known to a Blue Lodge, could not affect their standing as Master Masons. Your committee decline taking into consideration the converse of the resolution, as we consider the question properly appertains to a Grand Royal Arch Chapter or Grand Encampment."

VIRGINIA.

"M. W. J. W. Smith has been selected by the Grand Lodge of Missouri to preside over her Masonic College. In relation to the Grand Lodge of Florida, the committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report: That the Grand Lodge of Florida approves of the recommendation of the Baltimore Convention, with the exception of the *per capita* tax upon Masons not members of Lodges; and recommend instead, proper restrictions upon visitors. The committee on the *Trestle-Board*, not having time to examine as to its claims as a text-book, did not recommend it, but advised the appointment of a qualified brother to visit Baltimore, and other southern cities, during the present year, in order to obtain information in the uniform system of work. A most admirable address has been sent in circular to the several subordinate Lodges, 'urging zeal and industry.' The committee reports: 'In our own jurisdiction, peace and prosperity hold an undisturbed reign. The Masonic Craft never occupied a loftier position than at the present time.' The Grand Lodge of Virginia highly disapprove of the *Trestle-Board*. In relation to the subject, the committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida consider the book a work of mere *speculative* Masonry. The title alone is sufficient to condemn it. The new *Masonic Trestle-Board*. Masonry is valued on account of its antiquity. It is as unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. New Masonry is no Masonry. We object to the two modes of funeral procession. There are *no two ways* in Masonry. We consider the work, in the most favorable way it can be presented, as uncalled for, and totally useless and very inferior to the old standard works. The *Ahiman Rezon*, Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry*, and the *Monitor*, which have been handed down to us from our Masonic fathers—and the subsequent works of Cross and Tannehill. We regret to see so much feeling manifested by the Masonic Fraternity in relation to this subject, which we consider of minor importance."

NORTH CAROLINA.

"The Grand Master's annual communication is in favor of Charity Schools, for the benefit of the orphans of Masons and others. Grand

Lodge in favor of sending Masonic delegates to Europe. Committee report the following resolution to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

" *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge deem it inexpedient and improper, if not illegal, to authorize the conferring of the Past Master's degree by the subordinate Lodges.

" In this resolution your committee concur, because the warrants of all Blue Lodges only give the power to confer the first three degrees in Masonry. The representative system is recommended by the committee on Grand Lodges, etc. The committee report in favor of the *Trestle-Board*, although they do not think the work *perfect*. In this latter opinion, the committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida are happy to concur."

GEORGIA.

"Your committee have no later proceedings of this Grand Lodge than the annual communication of November, 1844. They take pleasure in making the following extract from the Grand Secretary's report : ' Orion Lodge, No. 8, heretofore working under warrant from the Grand Lodge of Florida, has, by action of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, at its last annual communication, been admitted as a member of this Grand body, upon its sending up its petition and warrant for endorsement. The Grand Secretary received the warrant and endorsed it under the seal of the Grand Lodge, and returned it to Orion Lodge. That Lodge requested that it be permitted to retain its number (8). The Grand Secretary informed Orion Lodge that it was for the Grand Lodge to say, during its present session, what number shall be assigned said Lodge.' Your committee consider the endorsing of the warrant granted to Orion Lodge, No. 8, by the Grand Lodge of Florida, by order of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, the highest compliment that could be offered to this Grand Lodge ; and we receive it as the best evidence of fraternal good feeling. The committee on the State of the Grand Lodge of Georgia reports : ' The Grand Lodge of Georgia, though informally represented in the convention at Baltimore, and the acts of the informal delegate were sanctioned at its last annual communication—yet we do not think the subject was well understood then, as a delegate was appointed to meet, as was supposed by this Grand Lodge, the adjourned convention of Washington city, in relation to the propriety of forming a General Grand Lodge for the Union, and that our last communication did not intend to adopt the *Trestle-Board* as a text-book, or bind itself to send a delegate to the adjourned convention at Winchester, in 1846. Your committee believe that Webb's *Monitor* and Cross' *Chart* are at least as good text-books as the *Trestle-Board*.' The committee report against the provision in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, proscribing a large and respectable denomination of professing Christians from the benefits of Masonry ; also the proscription of the Jews by the Grand Lodge of Prussia. We can make many allowances for the actions of Lodges under the despotism

of Europe ; but that the free-born Masons of Tennessee—the fellow-citizens of the M. W. P. G. M. ANDREW JACKSON—should violate the first principles of Masonry by such a proscription, is passing strange. We hope there is some mistake. The committee of the Grand Lodge of Georgia reports : ‘Your committee have read with pleasure the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Florida, in relation to the severance of Orion Lodge, at Bainbridge, from that Grand body, under a fraternal arrangement between the two Grand Lodges, and appreciate the fraternal feeling manifested by that Grand Lodge towards Orion Lodge. Such emanations of the finest aspirations of the human breast, are not only creditable to human nature, but speak volumes for the noble effects of Masonic principles.’ The cause of Masonry is onward in Georgia. We are gratified to see that there has been an addition of one-third to the Masonic Fraternity since the last annual communication.”

ALABAMA.

“ Brother Capers, from the special committee on the *Trestle-Board*, made the following report, which was read and concurred in : ‘Your committee are clearly of the opinion that the work is not such a one as we might have anticipated, coming as it does from such a high source ; and that, so far from casting any additional light upon the subject of Masonry, or improving our forms, it takes from the chart many of our important emblems, by the aid of which we teach some of our most useful and instructive moral lessons. And believing that any innovations upon our long established landmarks will invariably tend to weaken our cause, and lessen our love for the Masonic institution, your committee therefore report the work defective ; and they are of opinion that this Grand Lodge would act unwisely to set aside a work which has never yet been equalled, for one every way inferior to it. Your committee therefore recommend to this Grand Lodge the rejection of the *Trestle-Board*.’

“ Your committee have not received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, but observe from the proceedings of other Grand Lodges that Pennsylvania has also rejected the *Trestle-Board*.”

LOUISIANA.

“ Your committee have examined the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. The title page is startling to Ancient York Masons, viz.: ‘Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Ancient York Rite of the State of Louisiana ; Supreme Head of the Freemasons of said State, accumulating the Scotch and Modern Rites in their Symbolical Degrees.’ We find under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, Lodges of York Rite, of the Scotch Rite, of Modern Rite, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and subordinate Chapters annexed to the Grand Lodge : Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the thirty-third and last degree in the United States of America ; Grand Consistory of

the Sovereign Prince of the Royal Secret, thirty-second degree ; Council of Knights Kadosh, thirtieth degree, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Consistory : of Rose Croix, eighteenth degree, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Consistory ; York Rite Knights Templar ; Encampment of the Invincible Friends, No. 6, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Encampment of the United States, annexed to Polar Star Lodge ; and Holland Council of Royal and Select Masters, No. 1, annexed to Polar Star Lodge, No. 1.' To your committee who are unacquainted with higher degrees in Masonry, this amalgamation of Ancient York Masonry with Royal Arch Masonry, Knighthood, Scottish and Modern Rites, is confusion worse confounded, and a flagrant and palpable violation of the first principles of pure York Masonry, and of the ancient landmarks of the Order. The pure blood of the old Castile ever refused to mix with the Arab and Moor."

MISSISSIPPI.

"The Grand Lodge has ordered that every dimitted brother should • pay *per capita* dues to the Lodge nearest to which he resides. The Grand Lodge of Florida has expressed its dissent to this rule. They see no cause of changing their opinion. Masonry is free. Any Mason may, at his option, continue as a member of his Lodge or withdraw. The privilege of withdrawing is a nullity, if the Mason withdrawing is still liable for dues. The payment of dues is in consideration of the benefits and privileges the members derive from the Lodge. When, by withdrawal, these benefits and privileges cease, dues should cease also. The Grand Master decided that a subordinate Lodge cannot expel its Master, or any officer of the Grand Lodge. Your committee consider that there can be no doubt of the correctness of this decision, and consider it long since settled by the constitutions of Masonry. He also decided that 'a loss or partial deprivation of those physical organs which minister alone to the action of the body, do not disqualify a man from being a Mason.' He is sustained by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Alabama, and Florida, and will be sustained, we have no doubt, by the Grand Lodges of other States, when the subject is presented to their consideration.

NOTE.—[Florida never fully supported this decision ; and, on consideration, promptly rejected it.]

KENTUCKY.

"The Grand Lodge has established a Masonic Seminary for the gratuitous education of the male and female orphans of Masonic parentage, in the town of Lagrange. Their funds amount to \$10,855, besides donations in books, maps, etc., to a handsome amount, and some one thousand mineralogical specimens for the cabinet of the institution. The number of pupils is one hundred and twenty-seven. Your committee highly appreciate the virtues and enterprise of their Masonic

brethren in Kentucky. They consider the example worthy of all imitation, and calculated to do the most substantial good to the cause of Masonry and mankind in general. Your committee regret to see the following resolution in the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, No. 9, upon the communication of D. H. Morgan, expelled by Duval Lodge, No. 99 :

"Resolved, That the committee be discharged, and that the subject be laid over until the next convocation.

"We, of course, know nothing of the merits of the case, but we consider that injustice is done to a brother in publishing his expulsion by a subordinate Lodge, pending an appeal to the Grand Lodge, which may reverse the decisions of the subordinate Lodges. The publication of his disgrace goes out to the world ; the Grand Lodge may afterwards reverse the judgment, and declare the brother's conduct not only innocent but praiseworthy ; but the exculpation comes limping a year in the rear of the notice of expulsion ; the injury done a brother in the meantime is irreparable ; many who have seen the publication of his expulsion will never see the reversal by the Grand Lodge. Masonry is flourishing in Kentucky. We regard the numerous rejections and suspensions as an evidence that the portals of Masonry are guarded with commendable vigilance. We would recommend for the perusal of the Craft, the able and eloquent oration delivered by Charles G. Wintersmith, Grand Orator, before the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in the city of Lexington, in August, 1845."

INDIANA.

"Resolved, As the unanimous sense of this Grand Lodge, that a suspended Mason is not chargeable with dues during the time of his suspension.

"The foregoing resolution and the following your committee concur in : 'In 1842 it was decided that all labor or business, not specially pertaining to conferring the degrees, and the necessary instructions of Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Lodges, below the degree of Master Mason, is unmasonic.' In 1844, the following was adopted :

"Whereas, The excessive use of spirituous liquors, as a beverage, among many of our brethren has heretofore been the means of bringing a reproach upon Masonry,

"Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of Indiana, that we recommend to the subordinate Lodges throughout the State, the propriety of discountenancing, both by precept and example, the intemperate use of spirituous liquors as a beverage by Masons."

ARKANSAS

"Is in favor of the representative and triennial systems and the establishment of Masonic Schools. In relation to the admission of citizens of one State in the Lodges of another, the report adopted by the Grand Lodge is as follows : 'Your committee trust that the subject will receive the early and deliberate attention of the Grand Lodge of New York, and that the evil complained of by our brethren of Ohio may be removed, as this Grand Lodge has a similar complaint to lay

before the Grand Lodge of Alabama.' Your committee concur in this resolution. They consider it essential, for the preservation of Masonic harmony, that the jurisdiction of each Grand Lodge should extend over all, not only the territory, but the citizens of the State, who are applicants for the degrees in Masonry. The Grand Lodge of Arkansas also disapproved of the rejection, by the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, of citizens from the rights and benefits of Masonry, on account of their religious faith."

MISSOURI

"Has established the Masonic College of Missouri, and also a Seminary for females, as part of the Masonic College. They held an adjourned meeting at the Masonic College, at St. Louis, June 24, 1845, and formed a procession in commemoration of the decease of P. G. M. ANDREW JACKSON, ex-President of the United States. We hail the establishment of Masonic Colleges as a new and glorious era in the annals of Masonry. The light of science and Masonry are one. May the bright and balmy effulgence beam on the brow of the orphan Mason in the silent and sequestered vales of life."

ILLINOIS

"Withdraws the dispensations from the Nauvoo Lodge, Helm and Nye Lodges; and the associations of Masons working these Lodges are clandestine, and suspended from all the privileges of Masonry."

IOWA

"Passed the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will require a brother to have the Past Master's degree, before he can be installed as a Master of a subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

"The Grand Master, in his annual communication, states that the institution is in a prosperous condition; that he had issued, since the last communication, dispensations for Lodges at Wapello, Marion, Augusta, and Mount Pleasant. The Grand Master recommends Masonic Schools. The Grand Lodge adopted the 'rules for the organization and establishing a Grand Convention of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,' as passed by the convention of Masons, at the meeting in May, 1843, in the city of Baltimore, composed of eight sections, as the same is set forth in the printed proceedings thereof. We recommend to the attention of the Fraternity the first annual circular of the Grand Master of Iowa, and the address by W. Stephen Hempstead, Grand Orator, delivered before the Grand Lodge of Iowa, January, 1845."

MICHIGAN

"Adopts the *Trestle-Board*. A committee was appointed to take into consideration the subject of representation in foreign Grand Lodges. A communication was received by the Grand Lodge, from

Lodge No. 5, setting forth the names of members expelled for non-payment of dues. We consider expulsion for non-payment of dues a punishment not proportionate to the offense, and wholly unmasonic. We doubt the propriety even of suspension, and consider the striking off the offender from membership as proper punishment. The Grand Lodge of Michigan passed the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge deems it expedient to send a delegate to the next National Masonic Convention, which is designed to be held at Winchester, in the State of Virginia, in the year 1846, and that this Grand Lodge will proceed to the appointment of such delegate at the next annual communication."

WISCONSIN

"Adopted resolutions in favor of the triennial convention of Masons, as recommended by the Baltimore Convention. Also, in favor of sending a delegate from the Masonic Fraternity of the United States to their brethren in Europe. They are opposed to excluding Jews by some of the Grand Lodges of Europe. They are in favor of Grand Lodge certificates, not as absolute passports to Lodges, but as *prima facie* evidence of good Masonic standing, and they approve of the *Trestle-Board*."

TEXAS.

"The Grand Lodge of Texas appointed R. W. C. K. Teulon their special delegate to the various Grand Lodges and Independent Lodges of regular Free and Accepted Masons, in Asia and the Cape of Good Hope, and furnished him with the regalia of the Grand Lodge. Brother James Webb was appointed to represent the Grand Lodge of Florida in the Grand Lodge of Texas.

"Your committee regret that they have had time only to give a cursory view of some of the most important subjects which have occupied the attention of our sister Grand Lodges, since our last annual communication.

"The condition of Masonry is flourishing in Florida, as well as throughout the broad bounds of our happy Union. Its course is onward while time endures.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman*."

The M. W. Grand Master then made the following appointments of District Deputy Grand Masters :

For the Southern District—R. W. GEORGE W. MACRAE.

For the Eastern District—R. W. GAD HUMPHREYS.

For the Middle District—R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS.

For the Western District—R. W. ELIJAH BRYAN.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony, until the next annual communication.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, December 7, 1846.

M. W. JESSE COE, *Grand Master*.

At a Grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Florida, begun and held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the seventh day of December, A. L. 5846, A. D. 1846.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. GEO. T. BALTZELL, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

R. W. E. L. T. BLAKE, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.

R. Rev. P. P. SMITH, Grand Chaplain.

W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. JAMES A. BERTHELOT, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Past Deputy Grand Master.

And sundry members, representatives, and visiting brethren.

The Grand Secretary announced that it appeared that a constitutional number of subordinate Lodges were represented ; whereupon, the Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM, and with prayer by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain.

The representatives and proxies from the following subordinate Lodges, then handed in to the Secretary's table, their returns and credentials :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—James A. Berthelot, Worshipful Master ; James Barry, Senior Warden ; Charles E. Dyke, Junior Warden ; John G. Camp, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Samuel B. Stephens, Worshipful Master ; Joseph Austin, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Geo. F. Baltzell, Representative.

From Hiram Lodge, No. 5—P. P. Smith, Worshipful Master ; D. S. Graham, Senior Warden ; A. B. Shehee, Junior Warden ; A. J. Lea, Representative.

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—H. R. Taylor, proxy for Worshipful Master ; J. Nugent Cummings, proxy for Senior Warden.

From Madison Lodge, No. 11—N. P. Willard, Senior Warden ; A. Vann, Junior Warden ; John Westcott, Representative.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Thomas Brown, Representative.

From Dade Lodge, No. 14—John B. Taylor, Representative.

From Escambia Lodge, U. D., No. 16—W. W. J. Kelly, Representative.

From Santa Rosa Lodge, U. D., No. 16, ———.

On motion, all Master Masons in good standing, sojourning in Tallahassee, were invited to attend the meetings of the Grand Lodge, during the session.

The Grand Secretary made the following report :

"The Grand Secretary begs leave to report, that during the recess of the M. W. Grand Lodge, a petition was received from sundry brethren residing in Monticello, Jefferson county, Florida, to revive Hiram Lodge, No. 5, which had been dormant for several years ; and that accordingly, a special dispensation was granted to said brethren for that purpose. That also a dispensation was granted last fall, to the requisite number of Master Masons, to establish a Lodge at Milton, in Santa Rosa county, in West Florida, to be called Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16 ; the documents relating to which, accompany this report.

"The Grand Secretary has the honor to lay before the Grand Lodge, sundry letters and communications, which he has received since the last Grand annual communication.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary.*"

Which was read, and, on motion, the report and accompanying documents were referred to a special committee, consisting of Brothers H. R. Taylor, Stephens, and Dyke, with instructions to report forthwith. Whereupon, the committee retired for a short time ; when Brother H. R. Taylor, from the said committee, made the following report :

"The special committee to which was committed the report of the Grand Secretary, with the accompanying documents, beg leave to report, that it appears, by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, passed at a former session, the charter, jewels, furniture, and other property of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, were declared forfeited to the Grand Lodge, for delinquency ; that last summer a special dispensation was obtained from the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, directed to certain brethren, with authority to revive said Lodge. And it further appears, that said Lodge has been revived, and is working with order and regularity, agreeably to the usages and customs of the Fraternity, and have made due returns, and in all things complied with the requirements of the constitution. It also appears, that the delinquency of that Lodge was occasioned by the interruptions of the late Indian war, to which that portion of the country was much exposed. The committee therefore beg leave to submit the subjoined resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the charter, jewels, furniture, and other property of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, which was forfeited by a resolution of this Grand Lodge, be fully restored ; and said Lodge be reinstated into all its former rights and privileges."

Which report was read, and the resolution unanimously adopted.

The documents accompanying the report of the Grand Secretary, relating to Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, U. D., were then referred to the standing committee on By-Laws and Dispensations, and the special committee was discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master presiding, then proceeded to appoint the following standing committees :

- On Finance and Accounts—Brothers GEO. F. BALTZELL, CAMP, and BROWN.
- On Returns—Brothers BERTHELOT, STEPHENS, and CUMMINGS.
- On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers DUVAL, BROWN, and H. R. TAYLOR.
- On By-Laws and Dispensations—Brothers BALTZELL, DYKE, and BARRY.
- On Visiting Brethren—Brothers LEA, CUMMINGS, and WILLARD.
- On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers BROWN, BERTHELOT, and WESTCOTT.
- On Education—Brothers H. R. TAYLOR, DUVAL, and SMITH.
- On the Constitution—Brothers DUVAL, BROWN, H. R. TAYLOR, BALTZELL, BERTHELOT, STEPHENS, CUMMINGS, and VANN.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, December 8, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

- M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
- R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.
- R. W. GEO. F. BALTZELL, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.
- R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
- R. W. W. W. J. KELLY, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.
- R. Rev. P. P. SMITH, Grand Chaplain.
- W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.
- W. J. NUGENT CUMMINGS, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.
- Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.
- M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Master.
- R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Past Deputy Grand Master.

And many members, representatives, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was then opened in AMPLE FORM.

Brother Brown offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

“ *Resolved*, That Brother W. W. J. Kelly, proxy for Benjamin Overman, Worshipful Master of Escambia Lodge, No. 15, have further time to make returns from Escambia Lodge, No. 15, and that in the meantime, he be authorized to take his seat in the Grand Lodge, having paid the dues from his said Lodge.”

Brother H. R. Taylor, from the committee on the Constitution, made a report of the form of a constitution for the Grand Lodge of Florida, which was laid on the table until to-morrow.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until this afternoon, at three o'clock.

TUESDAY, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present, as in the forenoon.

On motion, the Grand Lodge resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida ; and after some time spent therein, on motion, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, December 9, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. GEO. F. BALTZELL, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

R. W. M. M. MICHAW, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.

W. J. N. CUMMINGS, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Past Deputy Grand Master.

And many members, representatives, and visitors.

The committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was read and adopted :

" Your committee have examined the by-laws and proceedings of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, and beg leave to report, that they find them in conformity with the constitution of the Grand Lodge, and the forms and usages of the Fraternity.

" They have also examined the by-laws and proceedings of Santa Rosa Lodge, U. D. No. 16, and find in them much that might, with propriety, be dispensed with, being too elaborate and diffusive. Having briefly commented upon the matters submitted to the committee, they would recommend that Santa Rosa Lodge be instructed to condense and simplify the same. The committee further report, that they have considered the application of Santa Rosa Lodge to have its dispensation extended for a twelve month longer, and for a remission of the dues paid by said Lodge ; and, forasmuch as it has only been a month or so since the dispensation was issued, and not time sufficient for a proper organization of the Lodge, your committee recommend that the dispensation be extended, and that the dues paid, amounting to \$7, be refunded, agreeably to the petition.

" All which is respectfully submitted,

" GEO. F. BALTZELL, *Chairman*."

On motion, the Grand Lodge resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the Constitution, which was read by sections and articles, and adopted with sundry amendments.

On motion, Brothers Brown, Duval, and J. B. Taylor were appointed a committee to arrange and prepare, in proper form for publication, the constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Florida, which has been finally adopted at the present session of the Grand Lodge.

On motion, ordered, that the Grand Secretary cause the constitution just adopted, to be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and one hundred and fifty copies to be printed in separate pamphlet form, for the use of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges.

Brother Berthelot, from the committee on Returns, reported that the the committee had carefully examined the returns of the various Lodges submitted to them, and after correcting some unimportant errors in two of them, report them all correct, and made in proper form, and their dues paid.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon, at three o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 9, three o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present, as in the forenoon.

On motion of Brother Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master, it was ordered, that a warrant be issued to the brethren of Escambia Lodge, No. 15, they having returned their dispensation and complied with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing twelve months. Whereupon, the following Grand Officers were declared duly elected :

M. W. JESSE COE, Grand Master.
R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEO. F. BALTZELL, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
R. REV. PEYTON P. SMITH, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. GAD HUMPHREYS, Grand Lecturer.
W. A. J. LEA, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. J. NUGENT CUMMINGS, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until this evening, at seven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 9, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments of Grand Officers for the ensuing year :

Brother W. W. J. KELLY, District Deputy Grand Master, for the Western District of Florida.

Brother D. S. GRAHAM, District Deputy Grand Master, for the Middle District of Florida.

Brother GEO. W. MACRAE, District Deputy Grand Master, for the Southern District of Florida.

Brother D. R. DUNHAM, District Deputy Grand Master, for the Eastern District of Florida.

Brother JOHN G. CAMP, Grand Marshal.

Brothers R. E. GIBSON and JOHN WESTCOTT, Grand Stewards.

Brother JOHN B. DE CORSE, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers elected and appointed for the ensuing year ; which ceremony was performed in SOLEMN ANCIENT FORM, by M. W. John B. Taylor, Past Grand Master, according to the usages and customs of the Craft, in person on those that were present, and upon those who were absent, by their proxies.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

THURSDAY, December 10, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

Brother Shine, from the special committee appointed to contract for the renting and repairing of the Masonic Hall, made the following report, which was read and adopted :

" The special committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge to contract for the renting and repairing the Masonic Hall in this city, beg leave to report that they have performed that duty ; not, however, in strict conformity to their instructions, but as nearly so as circumstances would authorize. They have rented the lower rooms to the trustees of the Male Academy in this city, for the annual sum of seventy-five dollars, to be expended in repairs on the same, or until the rents shall refund to them the amount expended in repairs ; and then the rent at the same rate per annum, to be expended in the tuition of such poor orphan children of Master Masons and others, as the Grand Lodge may direct, under its superintendence.

" The committee found it necessary, during the last summer, to order a new roof, and other repairs to be put on the building, which has been done at a cost of ninety-five dollars—the bills for which will be submitted to the Grand Lodge for its approval and payment.

" All which is respectfully submitted,

" R. A. SHINE, *Chairman.*"

The Grand Secretary reported his account, which was referred to the committee on Accounts, &c.

Brother Thomas Brown, representative from St. John's Lodge, No. 12, communicated to the Grand Lodge intelligence of the death, on the

seventh day of July last, of Brother Henry Whorton, Grand Junior Deacon of this Grand Lodge, and Past Senior Warden of St. John's Lodge, No. 12.

Whereupon, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge deeply deplores the death of its worthy and lamented Grand Junior Deacon, and sympathize with his friends, and the brethren of St. John's Lodge, under this visitation of Divine Providence.

"Resolved, That the officers and members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days."

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Brother John P. Duval, Past Grand Master, from the standing committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was read, adopted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that, since the last annual communication, they have received, through the Grand Secretary, the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, Michigan, Texas, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Iowa, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia, and many letters and documents on various important subjects, interesting to the cause of Freemasonry, now so prosperous in every portion of our extended Union. Your committee have examined the numerous communications received with minute attention and the most lively interest, and will endeavor to give a detailed report of the many important subjects which have engaged the attention of the Grand Lodges of the United States. The Grand Lodge of

MAINE

"Assembled at Portland, July 4, 1846, for the purpose of participating in the ceremonies and festivities of our national anniversary, in connection with the act of *breaking ground*, as the commencement of a great and highly important enterprise, viz., the construction of a railroad from the city of Portland to the city of Montreal, in Canada.

"Some of the subordinate Lodges have lately adopted a system of action which secures to every sick brother the constant attendance of a Master Mason. The Masters of these subordinate Lodges are required to appoint, monthly, a committee, whose sole duty consists in ascertaining the invalids among them, and appointing, daily, two Master Masons to attend each indisposed brother. Your committee suggest to the Grand Lodge the propriety of some action to effect this desirable object. Most Worshipful Grand Master, John T. Page, has been appointed representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near the Grand Lodge of Maine ; and E. Allen, of Washington, Texas, recom-

mended to represent the Grand Lodge of Maine, near the Grand Lodge of Texas. The committee on Foreign Correspondence report to the Grand Lodge of Maine : ' On the whole, the Fraternity have reason to rejoice in the present prospects of Masonry. The wild tornado, which prejudice and passion had raised against the institution, has spent its force, and died from the very act of its own violence.' M. W. John T. Payne, Grand Master ; R. W. Alexander H. Putney, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. John C. Humphreys, Grand Junior Warden—eight District Deputy Grand Masters, and fifty-seven subordinate Lodges. Committee on Foreign Correspondence, M. P. Norris, Eben Allen, Henry I. Jewett, Timothy Pillsbury.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

" Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient to unite with other Grand Lodges in the establishment of a National Masonic Convention, and that the further consideration of this question be indefinitely postponed.

" It seems, from the report of District Deputy Grand Master James Mc. K. Willins, that he has, in several instances, by dispensation, ordered degrees to be conferred without examination of character by a committee, or the usual delay of one month. Your committee consider this course a violation of the ancient rules and regulations of Masonry, which cannot be altered by the Grand Lodge itself ; and, therefore, no such power can be delegated to any officer. The committee on Foreign Correspondence report to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, on the subject of establishing a General Grand Lodge of the United States, as follows : ' The committee would, however, embrace the present opportunity to express the hope that the subject of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, will be duly considered by the members of the Grand Lodge, during the recess, so that some definite action may be had on this very important matter, at the next session of the Grand Lodge.' St. Mark's Lodge, No. 44, Derry, N. H., has been stricken from the rolls of the Grand Lodge, for neglecting to make returns for the last three years, and for not being represented in the Grand Lodge for the same period. The nativity of St. John, the Baptist, was celebrated at Portsmouth, June 24, 1846. The procession was one of the largest of the kind ever formed in New Hampshire. A very able and eloquent address was delivered by the Reverend Brother John Moore, of Troy, N. Y. Three or four hundred brethren sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Brother Gen. J. G. Hadley, at which the Hon. James C. Churchill, of Portland, presided, assisted by ten Vice Presidents. Masonry, in her most sunny days, never brought together more animated, true hearted, or better members, than were present on this glorious festival. The celebration was under the auspices of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, the oldest in the State, which was established A. L. 5736, A. D. 1736, and has been in existence one hundred and ten years. M. W. Cyrus Cressey, of Bradford, Grand Master ; R. W. John

Christie, of Portsmouth, Deputy Grand Master ; W. Thomas Laws, of Washington, Grand Senior Warden ; W. Philemon Tolles, of Claremont, Grand Junior Warden—eight District Deputy Grand Masters, eight Grand Lecturers, three Grand Chaplains. Committee on Foreign Correspondence, John Christie, John Knowlton, and Stephen Hoyt. The highest number of Lodges returned was fifty-five. There is an appendix containing a list of Past Grand Officers published with the annual proceedings, who, by the constitution, are members of, and entitled to vote in the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, corrected to June, A. D. 1846, A. L. 5846, together with the places of their residence, and the subordinate Lodges of which they are members. We respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge that the Grand Secretary shall prepare and publish with the annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, a similar appendix and list ; also, the names and residences of the several Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of the United States."

CONNECTICUT

"Does not consider Grand Lodge certificates absolutely necessary. The committee on Foreign Correspondence report : 'The correspondence contains many hundred pages, and is, generally speaking, in good taste ; breathing the spirit of concord and brotherly love—though the dictatorial manner in which New York has seen fit to speak of the doings of some of her sister institutions, has met with severe rebuke in more than one instance.' The following resolutions, submitted to the Grand Lodge by the committee, were laid on the table ; but afterwards taken up, and after a lengthy debate adopted :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge is not in favor of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and cannot consent to relinquish its rights and sovereignty over its present jurisdiction, to any person, or persons whatsoever.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge is not in favor of the appointment of a delegate to 'travel in foreign countries,' to obtain Masonic information, and respectfully declines the invitation to bear a portion of the expenses of such delegate.

"M. W. Horace Goodwin, Grand Master ; R. W. Avery C. Babcock, Deputy Grand Master ; W. Benoni A. Shepherd, Grand Senior Warden ; W. William E. Sandford, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Henry Peck, Past Grand Master ; M. W. William H. Ellis, Past Grand Master, and representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina ; M. W. Leonard Hendee, Past Grand Master ; M. W. Aner Bradley, Past Grand Master ; and R. W. William H. Jones, Past Grand Secretary, and representative of the Grand Lodge of New York. Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Wm. H. Ellis, A. C. Babcock, and Wm. Storer. Highest number of Lodges returned was seventy-five."

NEW YORK.

"Whilst reading the minutes, the M. W. Grand Master, Alexander H. Robertson, was taken suddenly and dangerously ill, and expired on

the twelfth December, 1845, in the forty-ninth year of his age. R. W. Mordecai Myers, Past Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master. The Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, at Berlin, has decided not to alter the decision made in the year 1842, '*not to admit as visitors of their Lodges, such Freemasons as are not baptized in the Christian faith.*' A special committee of the Grand Lodge have reported resolutions expressive of their disapprobation of the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, and the two other Grand Lodges of Berlin—Grosse Landes Lodge and the Royal York acting upon the same principle. The *American Masonic Register*, published by our W. Brother Hoffman, the oldest Masonic periodical in the United States, was recommended to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge and the Fraternity. The new constitution having received the sanction of a majority of the Lodges, is now the established Masonic law in the State of New York. The Grand Secretary, W. James Herring, made the following report in relation to Boyer Lodge, No. 1, of the city of New York, and the so-called African Lodge of Boston: 'The undersigned would further state, that the legality of the body called Boyer Lodge, No. 1, has already been twice reported on by committees of this Grand Lodge, on the third of March, 1812, and on the fourth of March, 1829. In the latter report, the main facts were correctly stated, and able argument sustained, and the conclusion drawn, that Boyer Lodge, No. 1, can be regarded only as a clandestine Lodge. The undersigned can arrive only at the same conclusion; it being established, beyond doubt, that the African Lodge at Boston was illegally established by the Grand Lodge of England, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; that its name has been long stricken from the roll of the Grand Lodge of England; that its assumed authority to grant warrants was unmasonic and fraudulent; and, further, that the statement contained in the memorial of the said Boyer Lodge, that it has been regularly and legally constituted and installed as a Master Mason's Lodge, with a legal warrant or charter, is totally unfounded.' The Grand Lodge is raising a fund to erect a Freemasons' Hall, and a Widows' and Orphans' Asylum. The committee on Foreign Correspondence report, 'that the Grand Lodge of Virginia dissents from the Grand Lodge of Maryland in the opinion, "*that expulsion, or suspension from a Grand Chapter or Encampment, necessarily carries with it a similar action from both the other bodies, unless such decision be repeated by the proper tribunals.*"' The committee of the Grand Lodge of New York agrees with Virginia on this subject, and, consequently, dissents from the opinion of Maryland. Your committee cannot forbear to express their satisfaction that their report made to the Grand Lodge of Florida, upon this subject, at the last annual convocation, has been sustained by the two eminent Grand Lodges of New York and Virginia. Brother R. W. Frederick Augustus Mensch, is the representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, at the Grand Lodge of Saxony.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted :

"Resolved, That 'the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the R. W. James Herring, late Grand Secretary, for his able, efficient, and faithful services through so many years.

"We exceedingly regret the retirement of R. W. Grand Secretary. His name is identified with Masonry in the Union. The committee on Grievances report : 'Your committee respectfully recommend that the action of Batavia Lodge in the rejection of W. Brother Powers as a visitor, be sustained ; believing that any Lodge has a constitutional right to reject any person as a visitor, whose presence would prove obnoxious to a majority of the brethren present.' In this opinion, your committee concur. The R. W. James Herring has been appointed by the Grand Lodge of Brazil, their representative near the Grand Lodge of New York. M. W. John D. Willard, Grand Master ; R. W. E. S. Barnum, Grand Senior Warden ; W. L. G. Hoffman, Grand Junior Warden. Highest number of Lodges returned was one hundred and fourteen. Lodges represented and returned seventy-three ; of which, eight are working under warrants issued since the last annual meeting. There are nineteen Lodges in the city of New York, returned. R. W. Brother Herring gave notice of the existence of a Lodge of clandestine Masons at Portchester, in Westchester county. Committee on Foreign Correspondence, R. W. Brother James Herring, C. F. Bauer, and Joseph D. Stewart. Expelled by St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Christian Lang ; by Montgomery Lodge, No. 68, Price B. Lodge, James Rosbotham, and Joseph Prekouer."

PENNSYLVANIA.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence reports : 'Your committee think that the idea of a '*National System of Work*,' which it seems to have been the main object of these conventions to contrive and establish, is an anomaly in Masonry ; and that the conventions, in adopting such a scheme, fell surprisingly and seriously into error. We are satisfied that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will yield no sanction to the action of the convention on this subject.' The committee reports, in relation to the *Masons' Monthly Magazine*, as follows : 'Its contents are, undoubtedly, entertaining, and exhibit industry and talent enough on the part of the conductor, Brother Moore. The contents and tendency of this magazine, however, your committee do not consider, exhibit any evidence in favor of popular publication on Masonic subjects.' We cannot agree with our brethren of Pennsylvania. We consider the light of science and Masonry should beam with commingled rays. The Grand Master, in his address to the Grand Lodge, remarks : 'With a permanent charity fund for the relief of the widow and orphan, and a noble legacy, the interest of which is to be solely applied to benefit poor and deserving Masons, our ability to do good is a happy one, and we should indulge it to the uttermost ; per-

mitting no tear to fall which our hands can stay ; no suffering to continue which we have the power to heal. The duty which lies upon us, in respect to this legacy, is one of the most sacred character. We are the trustees, not merely for the living, but the dead. Reposing confidence in our ability, as well as disposition, to deal justly, our deceased brother GIRARD has made us his almoners.' We have no doubt that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be a good and faithful steward of this noble charity of our deceased brother GIRARD, and that they will set an example in the faithful discharge of their duties, worthy of imitation by those to whom our brother confided the execution of similar trusts of charity. M. W. Grand Master James Page, R. W. Deputy Grand Master Peter Fritz, R. W. Grand Senior Warden William Whitney, R. W. Grand Junior Warden Anthony Bournonville, Past Grand Masters B. Newcombe, J. Randall, J. B. Gibson, J. Harper, S. Badger, J. Steele, G. M. Dallas, J. M. Read, S. H. Perkins, J. R. Chandler, C. Stevenson, and W. Barger. Eight District Deputy Grand Masters and nine Grand Chaplains. 'The Stewards meet for the distribution of the charity of the late STEPHEN GIRARD "for poor and respectable brethren," every Monday evening, in the Masonic Hall, South-third street.' There is no return of subordinate Lodges published. The highest number of Lodges noticed, is two hundred and eleven."

MARYLAND.

"Brother S. Alden offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the resolution making it obligatory on the Lodges of this State to demand a diploma from all strangers applying to visit, be, and the same is hereby repealed, and that it be left discretionary with the different Lodges.

"A special committee of the Grand Lodge made the following report :

"The main point at issue appears to be whether the Lodge has a right to demand who blackballed the applicant for a degree ; and why he was so blackballed ? The undersigned hold the doctrine that the ballot-box is sacredly secret, and that its sanctity may, under no circumstances whatever, be invaded or investigated.

"*Resolved*, That when a ballot is taken for any degree, or for membership, the result alone may be made known.

"*Resolved*, That a ballot cannot be had until the whole of the committee on the application have reported thereon.

"Your committee concur in the first resolution ; but think that the second resolution would better express the meaning of the Grand Lodge of Maryland if it were written,

"*Resolved*, That when a ballot is taken for any degree, or for membership, a report by the majority of the committee must have been previously made.

"Brother S. Cariss, Worshipful Master of Concordia Lodge, No. 18,

laid before the Grand Lodge of Maryland the following preamble and resolutions, adopted by that Lodge on the sixth of March, 1846 :

"WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Maryland has determined to establish a Grand Charity Fund for the relief of distressed Masons, their wives and orphans—and, whereas, the said measure will have the sanction and cordial support of Concordia Lodge, No. 13 ; therefore

"Resolved, That Concordia Lodge will contribute to the said fund the sum of fifty dollars per annum, payable at the regular meetings of the Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, That, provided the said fund, not less than one-half, that is to say, the sum of \$5,000, be appropriated to the purchase and endowment of a Masonic Asylum, which shall be a home for our destitute brethren, their widows and orphans—that Concordia Lodge will contribute \$1,000 of her Masonic Hall stock to this laudable charity, &c.

"Resolution agreed to. The following resolution was adopted May, 1845 :

"Resolved, That no Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall initiate, pass, or raise any candidate from another jurisdiction, until he has been resident here for more than twelve months, without making due inquiry as to his character and standing at the place where he last resided, without the recommendation of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he may have been, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master.

"Your committee accord with this resolution with two amendments, viz. : *And without the recommendation of the Lodge, within whose jurisdiction he may have been ; and striking out, 'unless by dispensation from the Grand Master.'* The Grand Master has no right to do wrong. Neither the Grand Master nor the Grand Lodge, nor any other tribunal on earth, can dispense with our sacred duties as Masons, or remove, or set aside the ancient rules and regulations of Masonry, and landmarks of the Order. The rule, as laid down by the resolution, must be right or wrong. If right, the Grand Master does wrong in setting it aside ; and, if wrong, the resolution should be rescinded. Your committee observe, that the returns made by the subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, give the names of all the officers, Past Masters, Master Masons, Fellow Crafts, and Entered Apprentices, members withdrawn, expelled, suspended, rejected, and dead. We highly approve of the form, and recommend the adoption of it by a resolution of this Grand Lodge, with the addition of notice of removals. There is also appended the expulsions, suspensions, reinstatements, and rejections, by the Grand Lodges of Alabama, Virginia, Tennessee, Louisiana, Illinois, Indiana, and Texas, which your committee recommend the publication, with the proceedings of the present Grand Lodge.

"M. W. Charles Gilman, Grand Master ; R. W. Thomas K. Carroll, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. J. K. Stapleton, Grand Senior Warden ; Brothers C. H. Ohr, D. A. Piper and J. W. Ball, were appointed by the Grand Master a standing committee of Correspondence ; but we are disappointed in not seeing the usual report by the committee on For-

eign Correspondence. There are returns from sixteen Lodges. The highest number of Lodges noticed is eighty-eight."

VIRGINIA.

"A circular from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Maryland upon the subject of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, was taken up and read ; whereupon, it was

"*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee of three, to be appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and that they be required to report to the next Grand annual communication.

"The committee appointed to examine the report made by the Grand Secretary, W. John Dove, at the request of the Grand Lodge, embodying the designs laid down by the Baltimore convention, held in May, A. D. 1843, report that, 'They think it presents the proper work and lectures, and will be found a useful text-book for Masons. They find that the compiler has prefixed to this report on the *Trestle-Board*, the constitution of Masonry from the *Ahiman Rezon*, and has also attached the *Methodical Digest of Laws* of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, by our late Brother James Henderson, heretofore adopted by the Grand Lodge, and the laws subsequently passed.' The work is recommended to the Craft. Entertaining a high respect for the character and talents of Brother John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and his Masonic learning, we recommend that the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge be directed to purchase three copies of the work for the use of the Grand Lodge. Brother James McCabe, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, reprehends the practice of the subordinate Lodges suspending their by-laws for purposes of present convenience, especially the law requiring petitions of candidates to lie over a month, except in cases of emergency. Your committee fully concur in this censure. Every such act is a palpable violation of the constitution of the Lodge, and being a nullity in itself, the degree is conferred without due Masonic authority, and the initiated has manifest injustice done him, as he is not, according to the strict construction of the constitutions of Masonry, entitled to the rights and benefits of the Order. The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia has been instructed to inform the Grand Lodge of Texas, that the Grand Lodge of Virginia has declined the representative system. The Grand Lodge approves the publication of the *Evergreen and Virginia Literary and Masonic Magazine*, at Staunton, Va., edited by W. Brother Charles H. Lewis. The Grand Lodge of Virginia is opposed to a General Grand Lodge. The committee on Foreign Correspondence reports : 'There are, in the view of your committee, insurmountable objections to the organization of a body having jurisdiction over State Grand Lodges.' The Grand Lodge declares in favor of a national convention of Grand Lecturers. The committee on

Foreign Correspondence make the following report on the two most important subjects now under the consideration of the several Grand Lodges of the Union: 'Your committee must also dissent from the opinion expressed by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, "*That expulsion or suspension from a Lodge, Chapter, or Encampment necessarily carries with it a suspension from the other bodies, unless such decision is repealed by the proper tribunals.*" Such an exposition of Masonic law we regard as oppressive and unwise. It is allowing a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, or an Encampment of Knights Templar to legislate for a Lodge of Masons, and *vice versa*; and will inevitably lead to an interruption of the harmony which should ever exist between the sublime degrees and Ancient Craft Masonry. Besides, it is contrary to the Ancient Constitutions, which make a Mason amenable alone to his Master and his Lodge. Nor can your committee admit the soundness of the decision, "that, if any individual, from selfish motives, from distrust of his acceptance, or other causes originating in himself, knowingly and willfully travel into another jurisdiction, and there receive the Masonic degrees, he shall be considered and held as a clandestine made Mason." Every person who enters the Masonic institution, at home or abroad, is presumed to do so "*knowingly and willfully.*" If, therefore, the Lodge into which he has been admitted is a regular Lodge, can he, under any circumstances, be held a clandestine made Mason, in the meaning of that term? If a Lodge invade the jurisdiction of another, the offense should be punished; but the person on whom they have conferred the degrees, can be excluded from the Masonic fellowship only for his own unworthiness, after due trial and opportunity for defense. The only correction of the evil complained of, is to be found in the legislation of the several Grand Lodges, and the enforcement of a proper attention to jurisdictional limits, by their subordinates.' Your committee agree perfectly with the Grand Lodge of Virginia upon these subjects. The Grand Lodge of Virginia objects to the sixth, seventh, and sixteenth Sections of the second Article for the government of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, viz.: 'When a question is under debate, no motion shall be made except for the *previous question, to adjourn, or to postpone.*' Seventh Section provides, 'A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except when a member is speaking, and shall be decided without debate.' Sixteenth Section provides, 'The yeas and nays and the call of the votes by Lodges on any question, except to adjourn, shall be ordered whenever demanded by two members, and whenever ordered by a majority, shall be spread upon the journal. These regulations, in the opinion of the committee, are fraught with evils of no common magnitude, and entirely subversive of some of the fundamental principles of our honored institution.' The East itself, no longer a place of inherent light, shines only with the reflected light derived from the workmen; and, at once, the last vestige of authority is plucked from the hand of the Master, and he is compelled to entertain a reflection

upon his own *wisdom*, in the form of a motion to *adjourn*, and is *forced* to dismiss the Craft, even though *they may not be entitled to their wages*. If these things are to be tolerated in Masonry, we have fallen upon evil times,' &c. It is apparent to your committee, that these objections, made by the Grand Lodge of the Ancient Dominion, have great Masonic force. It is obviously an innovation. A Lodge cannot be *adjourned*. It can but meet, be closed, or called off, as the wisdom of the Worshipful Master may direct and order ; and, upon the whole, these rules partake too much of the rules of modern legislation.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in relation to Florida, report :

" 'The proceedings are marked with great Masonic propriety. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is brief and pertinent. The address of Brother Little is an able and eloquent production. The brethren are zealous.'

"These commendations from the Ancient Lodge of Virginia, celebrated for its Masonic lore, are peculiarly grateful to the hearts of the Fraternity in this distant land.

"The Committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Virginia is opposed to the representative system because it is an innovation on the ancient regulations of Masonry. The condition of Masonry in Virginia is pleasing to the Masonic heart. A spirit of zeal and energy is pervading the entire jurisdiction, unknown in its previous history. Dormant Lodges have resumed their labors ; new ones have been formed, &c.

"M. W. John R. Purdie, M.D., of No. 18, Grand Master ; R. W. Sidney S. Baxter, of No. 36, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Josiah Bigelow, of No. 60, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. James Points, of No. 13, Grand Junior Warden ; Past Grand Masters, Levi L. Stevenson, No. 13 ; William A. Patterson, No. 14. Reports received from fourteen District Deputy Grand Masters. Committee on Foreign Correspondence, M. W. Robert G. Scott, Past Grand Master ; R. W. John Dove, Grand Secretary ; R. W. Sidney S. Baxter, Deputy Grand Master ; W. James Evans, Grand Senior Deacon ; W. Samuel H. Myers, G. Jun'r D. Lodges represented, forty-four. Highest number of Lodges noted, one hundred and fifty-five. Working Lodges, seventy-three. Dormant, eighty-one. Expelled—William Ward, by Lodge No. 22 ; James Miller and John Hoffman, by Lodge No. 95. Past Grand Master, Robert G. Scott, delivered an able and eloquent oration, worthy of the far-spread name and reputation of the orator. Deaths—M. W. John H. Purdie, Past Grand Master ; Rev. District Deputy Past Grand Chaplain A. Syme ; R. W. Wm. D. Wren, Grand Treasurer."

NORTH CAROLINA.

"We observe that the Grand Chaplain's name is placed immediately after the Past Deputy Grand Master, who occupies the place of the

Deputy Grand Master *pro tem.*, but not so stated ; and that all the other officers, including the Grand Tyler, are Right Worshipful ; and that the Grand Steward is placed after the Grand Tyler. We consider this arrangement an innovation. The M. W. Grand Master declares, that the committee on Foreign Correspondence, of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, are in error in relation to the right of a Lodge to try its Master. We believe with him that a Lodge has no such right. He objects to an article in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. Instead of audibly answering the question of *guilty, or not guilty*, the use of the ballot-box, to his mind, would be more strictly in consonance with Masonic usage. This is so apparent, that comment is not necessary. He proposes that every Lodge shall pay into the Grand Treasury, one dollar for each member, and the same for each initiation. Your committee now report this as an amendment to our constitution, for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, at our next annual communication. He advises the establishment of schools by subordinate Lodges. He is in favor of a General Grand Lodge. He remarks : 'It is generally conceded that expulsion from a Lodge excludes from the Chapter ; but some Grand Lodges very improperly contend, that expulsion from a Chapter, with the same propriety, excludes from the Lodge.' We consider both positions wrong, for reasons assigned by your committee in their last annual report.

"The address of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, deserves the particular attention of the Craft. It is replete with sound argument and Masonic instruction. We recommend the adoption of the following resolution, submitted to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

"*Resolved*, That no Lodge, working under the authority of this Grand Lodge, be allowed to admit a candidate, applying from another jurisdiction, either within this, or any other State, and whether he be rejected or not, without first obtaining the consent of such nearer Lodge, or from the Grand Lodge of the State from which he hails.

"It seems that the proceedings of our Grand Lodge have not been received.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence are in favor of a General Grand Lodge, and of a Masonic Census. The committee on Education report favorably. St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Wilmington, returns after the Tyler, an *Inner Guard*. We recommend that they *guard against innovations*. Appended to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, is a list of the six principal officers, from 1787 to 1845, inclusive. We consider this worthy of imitation. The whole number of Lodges are forty-five. Returns from twenty-seven Lodges only received, show an aggregate of nine hundred and nineteen Masons, and ninety-seven initiations. M. W. P. W. Fanning, Grand Master ; R. W. Thomas Loring, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Wiley W. Johnson, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. Talcott Burr, Jr., Grand Junior Warden. Four Grand Chaplains and one General Grand Lecturer—seventeen District

Grand Lecturers. Grand Lodge was first instituted by charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, A. D. 1771—constitution framed in 1787."

SOUTH CAROLINA

" Has adopted the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That the penalty of expulsion, for non-payment of arrears, be abrogated by this Grand Lodge, and that the only punishment hereafter to be inflicted for such defalcation, shall be a discharge from membership of the Lodge.

" Your committee are happy to find that their views on this subject, as expressed in their last report, are sustained by so distinguished a body as the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

" There is a Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third Degree, established in Charleston, S. C.,—Sublime and Ineffable Degrees. Alexander McDonald, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.

" The Grand Secretary reports, that he has noticed, in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, that the Grand Master of that jurisdiction has animadverted, in censurable terms, upon the 'practice pursued among many Lodges in different parts of the country' of admitting temporary residents to the Order. On this subject, he says :

" 'The Grand Lodge of Alabama has directed, on occasion of all such applications, that the Secretary of the Lodge, to which the candidate has applied, shall write for information to the Grand Secretary of the State from which he comes. This,' he says, 'is an excellent regulation, and one which it would, perhaps, be wise in every Grand Lodge to adopt.'

" Your committee concur fully in these views, and recommend the adoption of the regulation.

" The Grand Lodge of South Carolina has expressed an opinion adverse to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge. The Grand Master says, it may be attended with inconvenience, though there is no doubt that the advantages which would accrue from such an institution would be a greater *uniformity and regularity of system*. The Grand Secretary says the representative system has been adopted by the Grand Lodge, but confesses that he has many doubts whether any important good can arise to the Fraternity from its general adoption.

" M. W. John B. Irving, Grand Master ; R. W. J. C. Norris, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. F. C. Barber, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. A. E. Miller, Grand Junior Warden.

" M. W. John S. Cogdell, Charles M. Furman, and J. J. Alexander, Past Grand Masters. Twenty-four Lodges. Highest number of Lodges returned, sixty-seven. Dead—M. W. George E. Eckhard, Past Grand Master. There is no committee on Foreign Correspondence."

GEORGIA.

"Committee report: 'That the verdict of a jury, acquitting a defendant of a criminal charge, is by no means conclusive of his innocence, in view of the moral law by which our venerable institution is governed.' In this opinion, your committee concur.

"The Grand Lodge is in favor of the Representative system, and opposed to conferring degrees too rapidly.

"The committee on the State of the Grand Lodge, recommend the adoption of a provision in the constitution, limiting the time within which, after initiation, a candidate may be passed and raised: and limiting cases of emergency within proper restrictions.

"Your committee consider this subject peculiarly proper for the consideration of this Grand Lodge. Degrees are conferred with too much facility; and, by a loose construction, any case may become a case of emergency; and the wise provision requiring one month's delay, is virtually abrogated. We, therefore, recommend an amendment of the constitution in these particulars, and submit the subject for consideration at our next annual convocation.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Georgia are pleased to find that there are several Grand Lodges in the United States that do not recognize the expediency of adopting the system of Grand Lodge certificates. Upon this subject your committee are gratified to find their views sustained, as reported at the last annual communication.

M. W. William C. Dawson, Grand Master; R. W. John Hunter, first Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Amos Benton, second Deputy Grand Master; R. W. James W. Castens, third Deputy Grand Master; R. W. James M. Folsom, Grand Senior Warden; R. W. John W. King, Grand Junior Warden. There is no committee on Foreign Correspondence. M. W. William Y. Hansell, Past Grand Master; R. W. Joseph W. Jackson, Past Deputy Grand Master. There are forty-five chartered Lodges, and one Lodge under dispensation. There was a full and complete return of all the Lodges in Georgia, which is conclusive evidence of the flourishing condition of Masonry in Georgia, and, we believe, unprecedented in the annals of Masonry.

"Your committee has examined with pleasure the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, of seventh November, 5845. There are many valuable provisions, deserving the consideration of the Lodges of the Union.

"Your committee, however, regret to observe the introduction of the very unmasonic term of *adjournment*, which, by inadvertency, has found its way, from the proceedings of popular bodies, into our Grand Lodges.

"There is a provision in the fifth Section of the fourth Article of the constitution, in the following words:

"'That should a Master of a Lodge be guilty as specified in this

Section, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of said Lodge to notify the Grand Master, or one of the Deputy Grand Masters, who shall appoint the time of trial, and shall preside on such occasion, giving the accused ten days notice of the time of trial, with a copy of the charges and specifications.'

"We consider the duties required of the Secretary of the Lodge are in conflict with his duties as a subordinate officer of the Lodge, to his Master ; and places him in the character of a spy on the acts and conduct of his Worshipful Master, whom he is bound to sustain and support, in all his Masonic acts. We do not exactly understand over what body the M. W. Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, is required to preside in the trial of the Master of the Lodge. If it be in the Lodge over which the accused presided, we consider it without jurisdiction, as settled by the Baltimore Convention, and the decisions of the Grand Lodges generally. We also deny the right of a committee of the Grand Lodge to try the Master of a Lodge, or any Mason. We consider the Grand Lodge, alone, has the right to try a Master of a subordinate Lodge.

"The eighth Section of the fourth Article of the constitution commences as follows :

"Whenever a warrant shall issue to authorize the holding a new Lodge, the same shall be installed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or one of the Deputy Grand Masters,' etc.

"A Lodge is dedicated—the officers are installed. These objections, though apparently trivial to the uninitiated, are of the first importance to Masonry. Our rules, regulations, and Masonic terms, are like the laws of the Medes and Persians—they change not.

"Section four, Article five, provides : 'The Grand Treasurer shall not pay out, expend, or disburse any part of the funds under his care, but by virtue of an order signed by the Grand Master, or his Deputy ; or pursuant to a resolution of the Grand Lodge, *certified by the Grand Secretary.*'

"Your committee consider that it is the duty and right of the Grand Master to order the payment of any money, pursuant to the resolution of his Grand Lodge ; and that no Masonic body, or convention, can violate the ancient landmarks of the Order, by transferring the prerogatives of the Grand Master to any of his subordinate officers, except by succession."

ALABAMA.

"*Resolved*, That a Lodge has power to prefer charges against, and expel a brother who stands suspended, notwithstanding such suspension exists.

"Your committee concur.

"The Grand Lodge refused to concur in the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That subordinate Lodges have power to prefer charges against, and expel a brother for a crime committed before initiation.

"The following resolution was presented :

"Resolved by this Grand Lodge, That subordinate Lodges in declaring cases emergent when applications are made for initiation, passing and raising, should be extremely guarded ; and that, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, nothing but a contemplated journey of some considerable distance, and absence for some length of time, or the presence of any of the Grand Officers wishing to exemplify the work, or cases similar to these, should constitute a case of emergency.

"The Grand Lodge has discontinued the practice of publishing the names of persons whose petitions for initiation, passing, or raising, have been rejected—your committee consider, with great propriety.

"The Grand Lodge is in the habit of recording votes of Lodges for or against a measure. We consider this course unmasonic.

"M. W. Felix C. Norman, Grand Master ; R. W. William Hendrix, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. J. R. Clark, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. S. F. Hale, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Edward Herndon, Past Grand Master ; R. W. Felix G. Norman, Ptolemy T. Harris, Past Deputy Grand Masters. Fifty-nine Lodges. Highest number of Lodges returned, seventy-three. Deaths—R. W. David Moore, Past Deputy Grand Master, Helion Lodge, No. 1 ; R. W. John B. Hogan, Past Deputy Grand Master, Mobile Lodge, No. 40. Expulsions—James Craig, October 18, 1845, by Athens Lodge, No. 16 ; John B. Bann, Wm. H. Bonds, Shered Brantley, John W. Price, James M. Motes, Henry L. Brook, John Williams, Daniel McInes, Wm. C. Brooks, Fellow Crafts ; Reuben Moore, Entered Apprentice ; James Burns, and James H. Fliles.

MISSISSIPPI.

"The Grand Master, M. W. John A. Quitman, in his address to the Grand Lodge, states that dispensations have been granted to nine new Lodges.

"In relation to a General Grand Lodge, he says : 'I am inclined to view the proposal with favor, if a representation analogous to that of the States in the Electoral College for President, can be secured.'

"The Grand Lodge,

"Resolved, That the election of officers by Holmesville Lodge, whilst under dispensation, is null and void.

"Your committee concur.

"The Grand Lodge has rescinded the resolution which made it the duty of subordinate Lodges to require payment of dues from dimitted brethren, if their pecuniary condition is such that the payment ought not to be enforced.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence report as follows : 'At our last Grand annual communication, this Grand Lodge expressed its opinion in regard to the prerequisite physical qualifications of candidates for the mysteries of Masonry, declaring that, "if the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Masonry, his admission will not

be an infringement upon the landmarks of the Order." The Grand Lodge of Alabama has expressed the same opinion. The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the State of New York, in his last address to his Grand Lodge, remarks, in reference to this subject, that, "as plain a fundamental principle as words can express, has been solemnly and deliberately set at naught, with a mockery of pretended reason," by this Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of New York, it seems, following the lead of its Grand Master, in the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, "boldly and unequivocally tells us, we are wrong; and that the position we have taken strikes at the very foundation of the Order."

"Your committee would recommend that these remarks, and this action of the Grand Lodge of New York, which modestly assumes to be "the ruling and governing spirit" of Masonic proceedings in the United States, be passed by in the spirit of brotherly kindness, without complaint, rebuke, remonstrance, or further notice.'

"The following resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"*Resolved*, That the various reports and documents upon the subject of Masonry in Louisiana, in possession of this Grand Lodge, be referred to the M. W. Grand Master, who is requested to enter into a correspondence with the Grand Officers of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, expressing to them the views of this Grand Lodge, in regard to the grievances complained of, and urge the correction of them to the immediate attention and consideration of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

"M. W. John A. Quitman, of Natchez, Grand Master ; R. W. Benjamin S. Tappan, Vicksburg, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. S. H. Johnson, Gallatin, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. William H. Stephens, Grenada, Grand Junior Warden. The Most Worshipful Grand Master-elect, appointed R. W. Benjamin S. Tappan, Deputy Grand Master, Wm. F. Stearns, chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence. Returns from fifty-five Lodges. The Lodges return the names of all their members, and as evidence of the prosperity of Masonry, we find their names fill twenty-seven large leaves. Highest number of Lodges returned, sixty-five. Ten Lodges under dispensation."

ARKANSAS.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence, in relation to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, say : 'That they cannot see why a central organization would not be as beneficial to the Grand Lodges of this nation, as the central political organization is to the several political communities composing the Federal Union. *Uniformity* is the great object; and its necessity must be apparent, and its attainment desired by all.'

"Your committee observe with regret the following unmasonic language, by the committee, in relation to the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, declaring that an expulsion, or suspension of a brother, by a Royal Arch Chapter, or Encampment of Knights Templar,

shall not operate as an expulsion, or suspension from the Lodge of which he is a member : 'The committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, cannot let this pass, without entering their most solemn protest against the doctrine. To call it "*unjust and absurd*," as does the Maryland Grand Lodge, is going but half way, etc. The doctrine is not only, in our judgment, *absurd*, but with all due deference we say it is *wicked and abominable*.'

"If the Grand Lodge of Arkansas will examine the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges of the Union, since the publication of the report of their committee on this subject, they will find *arguments* in favor of this provision of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, of more avail than the *loudest denunciations*. If the Grand Lodge of Maryland has only gone half way, she can with more facility retrace her steps. We would advise our young sister, as she has a much longer and rougher road to travel on her return, to commence her journey with as little delay as possible ; for she will certainly have to make a retrograde movement, if declamation is to yield to argument. We do not arrogate to ourselves much Masonic lore ; but we have made a communication on this subject, to the Grand Lodge of Florida, at our last Grand annual communication ; to which we most respectfully request the attention of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas. We are open to conviction ; but it must be effected by *argument*.

"M. W. James M. Vicar, Grand Master ; R. W. John H. Strong, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Benjamin P. Jett, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. D. S. Knight, Grand Junior Warden. Dead—M. W. William Gilchrist, Past Grand Master and Past Grand Secretary. Twelve Lodges. Representation and returns from eight Lodges. M. W. Alden Sprague, Past Grand Master ; and James McVicar, R. W. Past Deputy Grand Master, representatives from Western Star Lodge, No. 2. Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Bros. D. J. Baldwin, Chapman, and Strong."

TENNESSEE

"Recommends the Masonic work, revised and corrected by Past Grand Master Tannehill. The Grand Master recommends to the Grand Lodge to purchase three copies for each subordinate Lodge.

"The committee on the *Master Mason's Manual*, by Past Grand Master, Wilkins Tannehill, report :

"'They take great pleasure in stating that it is not only a work of the highest literary and Masonic merit, but is better calculated, perhaps, than any work in existence to facilitate the work and lectures of symbolic Masonry. Besides, they find much interesting matter, embracing the decisions of various Grand Lodges upon subjects of the highest importance to the Fraternity, not embraced in any work extant, having the same design.' Your committee consider it a work of great merit, and recommend that three copies be purchased by the Grand Secretary for the use of the Grand Lodge.

"Your committee have examined, with pleasure, the new constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. We think we can see in it the touches of a Past Grand Master's hand.

"Section eleven provides : 'No person shall be eligible to the offices of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, or Grand Junior Warden, more than two years in succession. The other officers may always be subject to reelection or appointment.'

"Your committee, fully impressed with the Masonic wisdom and policy of this Section, now submit it as an amendment to the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, for consideration and adoption, at our next annual communication, according to the provisions of our constitution.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence states : 'That the Grand Lodge of Arkansas has established a precedent of doubtful authority, and more than doubtful expediency, in authorizing the officers-elect of Mt. Zion Lodge, a subordinate Lodge under her jurisdiction, to proceed to work without the ceremony of regular installation.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, extract the following from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, which the committee pronounces elaborate and well written, and asks the attention of their Grand Lodge to the position assumed :

"'It appears from the same (Maryland) report that, by the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, a large and very respectable denomination of professing Christians are excluded from the benefits of Masonry in that State. This feature in their constitution is condemned by their committee ; and your committee believe it to be contrary to the great principles of our Order to exclude any who declare their belief in the existence of a God.' (The committee of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee state that this regulation is a part of the by-laws—not of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.) The committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland states : 'No other Grand Lodge in the United States, we believe, requires or sanctions the test here referred to ; and it may be well for the Grand Lodge of Tennessee seriously to consider whether it is not an infraction of the ancient usages and landmarks of Masonry to *abandon* the position, or *vindicate* it with becoming *earnestness* and *efficiency*.' The committee of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, in conclusion, remark : 'That they did not intend, in their report, to express any opinion on this subject. Your committee, in their report at the last annual communication, took the same position on this subject which has been taken by the Grand Lodge of Maryland. We have confidence in the Masonic intelligence and virtue of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee ; and knowing what is right, we believe they will do it.'

"The Grand Lodge takes the position, 'That a Lodge may admit any candidate for initiation whose dismemberment or deformity is not such

as to render him incapable of gaining a livelihood, or performing all the work of a Lodge.' The decision of the Grand Lodges of Maine, Massachusetts, Kentucky, Tennessee, *The True Constructions of the Ancient Constitutions of Masonry*, by Past Grand Master, W. Tannehill, the *Freemason's Magazine*, are quoted as sustaining this construction—to which may be added the decision of the Grand Lodge of Florida, at our last communication on the report of your committee.

"The committee report in relation to Florida: 'Masonry is prospering also in the new State of Florida; and the Grand Lodge have, through a committee, issued an eloquent circular, recommending the erection of a Grand Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, and asking contributions for that purpose.'

"Brother Barry Gillespie is recommended as representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

"The Grand Lodge confirmed the report of the committee, declaring that a subordinate Lodge has not the right to try its Master. The proper course to be pursued, is to petition the Grand Master for a suspension of the Master from office until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he may be tried before them.

"M. W. Lemuel McManus, Past Grand Master, is recommended as representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.

"The by-laws of Harrison Lodge, No. 114, provided that a petition may be withdrawn without the consent of the Lodge. The committee on Dispensations of the Grand Lodge say: 'this should be amended so as to read "*with the consent of the Lodge.*"' The committee would amend it by the following clause:

"'A petition for initiation shall not be withdrawn with or without the consent of the Lodge, after it has been referred to a committee to report upon; and would respectfully refer the Grand Lodge of Tennessee to the report of this committee, made at the last communication on this subject.

"'By Section twelfth, of the by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, it is provided, "When a petitioner for initiation has been reported by the committee of Inquiry as worthy, he may, if he think proper, withdraw his petition; but if he has been reported as unworthy, he shall not have permission to withdraw his petition.'

"We consider this Section unmasonic. It may be, that some brother may know of good cause why the applicant should not be admitted to the privileges of Masonry; and which, if known to the committee, the the report would have been adverse.

"By Section thirteen, it is provided: 'Any member of a subordinate Lodge may object to the initiation, passing, or raising a candidate at any time before the degree is conferred.'

"Your committee concur in the wisdom and policy of this provision.

"M. W. E. Dillahunt, of Columbia, Grand Master; R. W. Edward

Howard, of Clarksville, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. Wm. L. Martin, of Lebanon, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Oliver B. Hayes, Past Grand Master. Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year : M. W. Wilkins Tannehill, Past Grand Master ; W. J. H. McMahon, Past Master ; W. Embree Charles A. Fuller, Past Master ; E. P. McGinty, Representative of Clarksville Lodge, No. 89. Thirty-seven Lodges represented. Highest number of Lodges returned, one hundred and thirteen. Past Masters present, twenty-three. No return of subordinate Lodges, expulsions, suspensions, or deaths published.

"Your committee recommend the form of a return by the subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge, appended to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, for adoption by this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to have the same published as an appendix to the proceedings of each annual communication.

"Your committee have read with much interest, the Masonic tribute to General ANDREW JACKSON, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, by the R. W. Philip P. Neeley, Grand Chaplain, under the direction of the Grand Master, and by him ordered to be printed."

INDIANA.

"The Grand Master agrees with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, that expulsion from a Lodge deprives the party expelled of all rights and privileges he ever enjoyed. He is at once as completely divested of his Masonic character as though he had never been admitted, so far as regards his rights, while his duties and obligations remain as firm as ever. The Grand Master contends that a subordinate Lodge cannot expel a member unless the decision is confirmed by the Grand Lodge. We respectfully dissent from the opinion of the Grand Master in this particular. We consider the power to expel ample in the subordinate Lodge, and that the only method to annul the judgment of the subordinate Lodge is upon appeal to the Grand Lodge. We consider the subject has long since been settled by the constitutions of Masonry and the uniform action of the Grand Lodges of the United States. The Grand Master is opposed to suspension or expulsion on account of non-payment of dues, but advises, in such cases, that the Lodge shall forfeit or suspend membership. This view was taken by your committee at the last communication of the Grand Lodge, and they are happy to find that they are sustained by the Grand Master of Indiana. The Grand Master is in favor of a General Grand Lodge, for the purpose of protecting the ancient landmarks and usages of the Order. He proposes a fund for the purpose of establishing a Freemason's Orphan Asylum. The committee of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, to whom was referred the examination of *The Craftsman, and Freemason's Guide*, containing a declaration of the ritual of Freemasonry, from the degree of Entered Apprentice to that of Select Master, and the order of Priesthood, pronounce it one of the

best Masonic manuals yet published. It seems to your committee that this recommendation is rather too much for a Lodge of Master Masons, and that the committee have traveled out of the record of their charter. A recommendation in relation to the higher degrees would come with a better grace from a council of Select Masters, and a convention of High Priests. The following resolution was offered by Brother Watts, for the adoption by the Grand Lodge of Indiana :

“Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, there is no power anywhere delegated to our Grand Master, to grant a special dispensation to a Lodge to confer the degrees of Masonry upon a candidate whose residence is out of the district or boundary of the Lodge conferring the degree.

“We fully agree with Brother Watts, as will appear from another part of this report. The constitution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, Section 1, Article 2, provides : ‘The members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Masters who are members of subordinate Lodges, and the Worshipful Masters of subordinate Lodges, or their legal representatives.’ ‘Section 2 : The appointment of representatives must be made by the Worshipful Master, by and with the consent of the Lodge, to be certified by the Secretary thereof, and have the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto.’ Your committee does not recommend these sections for adoption entire in the formation of the constitution of our Grand Lodge, but as affording materials for proper selection. We see that the Reverend Grand Chaplain is styled Most Worshipful ; this title belongs exclusively to Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters, and it is unmasonic to bestow it on any other officer. It is provided by Article 14, of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, that ‘the Grand Treasurer shall account to the Grand Lodge for all moneys received by him, nor shall he pay any money without the order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master or *Grand Secretary*.’ The Grand Secretary should be stricken out, as the power belongs peculiarly to the Grand Master, by virtue of his office, and to him alone. Section 2, Article 17, provides : ‘No petition for initiation, when once presented, can be withdrawn but by consent of a majority of the members present,’ nor then, as your committee understands the regulations of ancient Masonry, as before explained. Section 8, same Article, provides : ‘When the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institutions.’ We are happy again to sustain this position of your committee, taken in their last annual report in relation to this subject, by this provision of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Section 2, Article 18, provides : ‘In no instance has a subordinate Lodge a right to receive a candidate from any other State, where a regular Grand Lodge is established.’ This position was also taken by your committee in their last report to the Grand Lodge. By Section

5, Article 18, it is also provided, that: 'Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts have no right to vote on any subject, except on the admission and advancement of candidates.' Your committee consider that if the words 'except on the admission and advancement of candidates' were stricken out, it would come nearer the Masonic rule, as recognized by all Lodges from time immemorial. None but Master Masons should vote for conferring the first three degrees of Masonry. We are inclined to believe we are finding fault with a typographical error. Section 4, Article 19, provides that: 'Revising or abrogating the decision of a subordinate Lodge in suspending or expelling a brother, shall not (notwithstanding it restores him to all the privileges of Masonry) restore him to membership in the Lodge from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.' To this your committee give their concurrence. By Section 5, same Article, it is provided, that: 'An expulsion or suspension of a Mason from a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, who is a member of a Blue Lodge, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from a Blue Lodge.' Strange as it may appear to our young sister Arkansas, this *absurd, wicked, and abominable* doctrine is promulgated in the constitution of Indiana, as well as in that of Wisconsin, sustained by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and our Grand Lodge also entertains this heresy, denounced by the Grand Lodge of Maryland also, as *unjust and absurd*. Brethren should dwell together in unity. If they be in error, you should believe they are honestly misguided, and endeavor to bring them to the light of reason, by persuasive argument, always remembering, that to err is human, and that *denunciation* is not *argument*. By Section 1, Article 20: 'It requires the same unanimous vote to remove the order expelling or suspending a member of a Lodge from the privileges of Masonry, that is required for the admission of a candidate or new member.' This section we particularly recommend for adoption in our new constitution.

"The following report of the committee was concurred in by the Grand Lodge of Indiana:

"Your committee are of opinion that the subject matter referred, is one about which there appears to be great diversity of opinion, viz., whether the right of expelling and advertising members is in the subordinate Lodges or in the Grand Lodge? Your committee are of opinion that the person expelled should always have thirty days at least, in which to take an appeal to the Grand Lodge, and, in case no appeal be taken, the subordinate Lodge may then, at their discretion, advertise them.'

"Your committee fully concur in this opinion, with the exception of advertising the expulsion, with which we consider the subordinate Lodge has nothing to do. It is their duty to return the name of the member or Mason expelled, to the Grand Lodge, and the character of

the offense for which he was expelled ; and then it becomes the duty of the Grand Lodge to publish the same in the annual proceedings, if there be no appeal pending. The following resolution, made by Brother H. Allen, from the select committee, was presented for adoption by the Grand Lodge of Indiana :

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that every Master Mason who is a member of a subordinate Lodge, and otherwise qualified, is eligible to preside as Master of such Lodge, without having served in the character of Warden.

"Which was read and laid on the table.

"We regret to see that no communication has been received by the Grand Lodge of Indiana from the Grand Lodge of Florida. This must have been from a failure of the mails, and not from the neglect of our Grand Secretary, whose duty, in this regard, has been promptly attended to. The proceedings of our Grand Lodge, at the last session, are requested to be forwarded by the Grand Secretary.

"The committee on Education recommends common schools under the direct patronage and control of the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and brethren of each subordinate Lodge. As there has been no committee on Education appointed, we respectfully suggest to the Grand Lodge the appointment of such a committee, and that the following resolution of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, be referred to that committee, as being adapted to the limited resources of the Fraternity in Florida :

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge requests each subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction, to appoint a committee, whose duty it shall be to find out the orphan children of Masons, within the limits of its jurisdiction, and those that are in indigent circumstances, and send the said children to the school in the neighborhood where they live, and pay for the same out of the funds of the Lodge, and by subscriptions from members and transient brethren, and if there cannot be enough means raised from such sources, then this Grand Lodge may appropriate such sum as it may deem proper for such purpose, by petition being made for the same.

"It is time that Masonry should manifest its good works in our land, in this particular especially. Although our means are limited, yet there are but few indigent, or orphan children of Masons to provide for and educate. May the beautiful lines of Gray be deeply impressed on the memory of every brother :

" Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear.
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

"It is our duty to foster the genius of the indigent orphan, and let not the cold hand of penury freeze the genial current of their souls.

"The committee report that the Grand Lodge of Indiana had nothing to do with the Baltimore Convention. They have neither recommended nor decided against the *Masonic Trestle-Board*, by Brother C. W. Moore. They say that the weight of that other great light in Masonry, Brother

John Dove, of Virginia, is a great drawback to its usefulness. The committee report in favor of a Grand Convention, which is proposed to meet in Baltimore in 1847. The Grand Lodge of Florida has approved of that convention, considers its establishment of triennial meetings better than no general Masonic government; but your committee decidedly prefer the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, and consider the convention will bear the same relation to a General Grand Lodge that the old confederation does to the present constitution of the United States. It is only necessary for your committee to cast their eyes over the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, to satisfy them that we imperiously require some Masonic head. The decisions and Masonic constitutions are varying and discordant. Masonry which boasts of its unchangeableness through all time and place, is not the same in any two States, or any two periods of time even in the same State. The reports of our committees on Foreign Correspondence, instead of harmonizing like the music of the spheres, are discordant as harsh thunder, and instead of Masonic arguments and mild and persuasive language, which should ever characterize the intelligent Mason, our ears are astounded with declamation, denunciations, crimination, and recrimination. Can any dispassionate and reflecting Mason believe that order can reign, when there is no intelligent head to govern and direct? As well might we expect that the planets of our system would revolve in beauty and harmony, if the sun were stricken from the firmament. Our own system of government points out the necessity or propriety of a General Grand Lodge, and the establishment of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, proves to be an example worthy of imitation. Your committee therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge of Florida, the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, being fully impressed with the necessity of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge in the United States, will appoint a delegate to meet in convention in Washington city, on the first day of May, 1848, to effect this purpose, should a majority of the Grand Lodges in the United States consent or concur.

"Your committee have named the time and place, because of the facilities afforded by the Congress in Washington in 1848. In relation to the representative system, the committee of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, reported, 'that they do not find that it is positively opposed as an evil, by any of the Grand Lodges, but the opposition arises from a belief of its uselessness.' Your committee fear there is too much truth in these remarks.

"In relation to delegates to visit English Lodges, the committee reports, that the general feeling, we believe, is that it would prove a splendid failure. Your committee incline to the same opinion.

"On the subject of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges, and the admission of citizens from other States, the committee report, that 'the

exclusive right to confer Masonic privileges belongs to the proper Masonic bodies of the State of which the applicant is a member.' In which your committee also concur.

" Appended is a list of Lodges in Europe, Asia, Oceanica, Africa, and America.

" On motion of Brother Thomas Douglass, Grand Junior Warden :

" 1. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that it is improper for subordinate Lodges, working under their authority, to publish the suspensions or expulsions of any members, unless by order of this Grand Lodge.

" Proceedings of 1818, page 13. Your committee is happy to find the position taken by them in a former part of this report fully sustained by this resolution, and they are the more gratified to learn that the brother, Thomas Douglass, Grand Junior Warden, who presented the resolution, is the same brother who was afterwards Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and now the distinguished Judge of the Eastern District of Florida.

" The committee of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, reported : ' That the right to determine upon the propriety or impropriety of admitting or not admitting a visiting brother, is a prerogative which every regularly organized Lodge should possess.' Your committee are again gratified to find their previously expressed opinion upon this subject sustained. In 1822, it was decided by the same Grand Lodge, ' that the Worshipful Master of a Lodge could not appoint a proxy to the Grand Lodge without the concurrence of the Lodge over which he presided.' In this opinion, your committee consider the Grand Lodge of Indiana decidedly in error. The right to appoint proxies appertains to the office of Master and Wardens, and is an inherent right, which they can each exercise according to their individual discretion, and uncontrollable by the Lodge. The Lodge itself having generally the right to elect their own representative, uncontrolled by the Master and Wardens. In 1838, it was, on motion of Brother Samuel Judah (same Grand Lodge),

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge retain the exclusive power to restore expelled Masons upon such representations of the subordinate Lodge as may be satisfactory.

" Your committee admit the right of the Grand Lodge to restore expelled Masons, but are clearly of opinion that the subordinate Lodge which expelled the member, has also the right, at any time, to restore the expelled Mason to all the rights and benefits of Masonry, unless prohibited by the Grand Lodge, and that the subordinate Lodge has even more power in one particular, viz., the power to restore the expelled Mason to membership in the Lodge, which the Grand Lodge cannot do. In 1840, it was, by the same Grand Lodge,

" *Resolved*, That no Lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge, shall permit any member of a lower degree than Master Mason to vote on any subject before the Lodge.

" This regulation, which is declared to be now in force, is in direct

collision with Section five, Article eighteen, of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and sustains the position taken by your committee, when commenting on this section, in another part of this report. In 1845, it was resolved by the same Grand Lodge, as the unanimous sense of the Grand Lodge, that a suspended Mason is not chargeable with dues during the time of his suspension. Your committee concur.

"M. W. Isaac Bartlett, Grand Master; R. W. Johnson Watts, Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Caleb Schmidlap, Grand Senior Warden; R. W. Lewis Burk, Grand Junior Warden; M. W. Abel C. Pepper, Wm. Sheets, and James L. Hogan, Past Grand Masters of Indiana, and M. W. B. T. Kavanaugh, Past Grand Master of Wisconsin; committee on Foreign Correspondence, D. P. Holloway, representative from Webb Lodge, No. 24; Hiram Allen, Richard M'Olive, Lodge No. 48, and Austin Williams, Grand Secretary—twenty-eight chartered Lodges, and eight working under dispensation represented; total, thirty-six. Highest number of Lodges noticed, fifty-six. Expulsions—Cambridge Lodge, No. 5, James V. Wayman, Fellow Craft; Tipton Lodge, No. 33, George Julian; Chesterfield Lodge, No. 53, Edward McFarland."

IOWA.

"The Grand Secretary condemns, in strong terms, the religious test required by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, before initiation. The following extract from the by-laws of Farmington Lodge, was approved by the Grand Lodge: 'On the written request of any three brothers, he shall (i. e., the Master) call a meeting of the Lodge, and also, at his own discretion, when business requires.' This your committee consider a palpable violation of the rights of all Masters of Lodges for ages. The Master alone has the right and power, uncontrolled by his whole Lodge, or any member, to call his Lodge whenever he may deem it proper.

"Your committee refer to the consideration of the committee on Education, the following report of the special committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa: 'Your committee would propose, as means of immediate relief, that each Lodge inquire after and furnish the means necessary for defraying the expense of tuition, at least, of the orphan children of deceased brethren residing in its vicinity, and present the account to this Grand Lodge for payment; or if thought more advisable, the Grand Lodge may select some one or more of the institutions now in operation, at which orphans may obtain tuition at the expense of the Grand Lodge, under such restrictions as the Grand Lodge may see fit to impose.' M. W. G. W. McCleary, Grand Master; R. W. J. R. Hartsock, Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Wm. Reynolds, Grand Senior Warden; R. W. F. Kinney, Grand Junior Warden. We find the name of R. R. Wm. Talbot, Grand Chaplain, placed next after the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and before the R. W. Grand Senior Warden. This is unmasonic. The Wardens outrank all other officers, ex-

cept the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

"Seven chartered Lodges returned, and two under dispensation. There is no committee on Foreign Correspondence; that duty being performed by the Grand Secretary, T. S. Parvin. Appended is a Masonic address, delivered by R. W. Robert Lucas, Grand Orator, giving a history of Ancient Masonry. There is no return of expulsions, suspensions, or deaths. The committee on Foreign Correspondence to act during the recess of the Grand Lodge—T. S. Parvin, Grand Secretary; Oliver Cook, Past Grand Master; and G. W. Cummins."

KENTUCKY.

"In relation to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, the committee on Foreign Correspondence state, that it adopted a resolution by a vote of fifteen to four, that an expulsion or suspension from a Chapter or Encampment, is an expulsion or suspension from all the privileges of Masonry—with which the committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky does not concur. The committee on Foreign Correspondence takes the following notice of the report of your committee, made at the last annual communication: 'The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida, speak in very commendable terms of the action of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in the establishment of the Masonic College at Lagrange; and also, of the flourishing condition of Masonry in Kentucky, they remark, that—"we regard the numerous rejections and suspensions as an evidence that the portals of Masonry are guarded with commendable vigilance." It is a little remarkable, with the sentiment quoted from their report, that the committee should deem it to be their duty to question the action of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in the case of D. H. Morgan. Our brethren acknowledge that they know nothing of the merits of the case. For that very reason they should have forbore to question the action of this Grand Lodge upon the subject. For the information of our brethren in Florida, we will state the facts of the case. The individual alluded to was expelled by Duval Lodge; he appealed to the Grand Lodge at its next session, and the Grand Lodge sustained the decision of Duval Lodge. Twelve months afterwards, at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, D. H. Morgan again made application for a hearing, and to have the action of the subordinate Lodge and of the Grand Lodge reversed, and he to be restored to all the privileges of Masonry. Our minutes simply stated the fact in accordance with the action of the Grand Lodge, and was laid over to prevent Duval Lodge from being taken by surprise. Was this wrong? We think our brethren will admit that it was not.' We admit, upon this statement of the case, that the Grand Lodge of Kentucky has done no wrong, although the merits of the case, known or unknown, have no more to do in this case, than in a case upon appeal at law, where the case is dismissed upon a

failure to comply with the requisites and forms required by the law granting the appeal. Your committee contend that the Masonic procedure, according to the showing of the minutes of the Grand Lodge as published, were wrong. If the case was not fully stated, it was the fault of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and not the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida. We decided from light and data presented, and could not be presumed to know that which was not published. To satisfy the Grand Lodge of Kentucky that our objections are not captious, we give below the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky as published, and we ask them, in candor, to say, if the case had been reversed, and this Grand Lodge had published the same proceedings, if the Grand Lodge of Kentucky would not have come to the same conclusion with your committee?—*'No. 9, upon the communication of D. H. Morgan, expelled by Duval Lodge, No. 99 :*

" 'Resolved, That the committee be discharged, and that the subject be laid over until next convention.'

"Your committee, upon this simple statement, made the following remark : 'We, of course, know nothing of the merits of the case, but consider that injustice is done a brother in publishing his expulsion by a subordinate Lodge, pending an appeal to the Grand Lodge,' and of this there can be no doubt. Upon this presentation of the case by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, would not any intelligent Mason take it for granted, that it was an appeal from the judgment of Duval Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and not upon a petition for a rehearing by the Grand Lodge after the confirmation of the judgment of the subordinate Lodge by the Grand Lodge, which we believe unprecedented in any appellate tribunal in the Union, Masonic or Judicial.

"We are happy to find that by the report of the Trustees of the Masonic College at Lagrange, Kentucky, that the institution is in a most flourishing condition. Six professors and two hundred and three students. M. W. William B. Allen, of Greensburg, Grand Master ; R. W. James B. Daviess, of Georgetown, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. William Tilden, of Louisville, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. John D. McClure, of Overton, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Thomas C. Orear, Past Grand Master. A. G. Hodges, chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence. Eighty-four Lodges returned, of which nine are under dispensation. The highest number of Lodges noticed, one hundred and fifty-one. The returns of the subordinate Lodges fill twenty-three large leaves, small print. This fact alone is sufficient evidence of the prosperous condition of Masonry in Kentucky."

OHIO.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master, in his annual communication, states that the charter of Northern Light Lodge, No. 40, had been revived, and that dispensations had been issued for ten new Lodges ;

and charters granted to Columbia Lodge, No. 134, and Butlerville Lodge, No. 135 ; and Montgomery Lodge, No. 94, authorized to resume labor. A committee has been appointed by the Lodge for the purpose of making inquiry of those Grand Lodges which have established schools for the benefit of the orphan children of deceased Masons, with the view of establishing a similar institution.

Your committee observe that the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and other Grand Lodges, receive and publish minority reports. We conceive this course unmasonic, having its origin in legislative assemblies, agitated by party ; an example wholly unworthy of our imitation. We may expect an honest difference of opinion in all free assemblies ; but when once a majority declares the judgment of the Grand Lodge, but one spirit, and but one feeling should animate, 'who can best work and best agree.'

"The following resolution of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, we consider unmasonic :

"Resolved, That, when any brother, suspended for the non-payment of dues, shall refuse or neglect to pay such dues for six months, he then shall be expelled.

"Suspension and expulsion are the severest Masonic penalties that can be inflicted for any crime, however aggravated, and should not be applied for the non-payment of dues which might be the result of neglect or poverty. We consider suspension or deprivation of membership, as the most appropriate Masonic penalty. We hold equally unmasonic the amendment offered to the by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, which authorizes a subordinate Lodge to suspend or expel any Master Mason, not a member, but residing within their jurisdiction, who shall refuse to pay one dollar and fifty cents yearly. We consider Masonry is free, and if a man chooses to withdraw from any Lodge, he has the liberty to do so ; but if an adjacent Lodge has the right to fine dimitted Masons, the right of withdrawal is an idle ceremony. The ancient constitutions of Masonry require that a man must be made a Mason in the Lodge nearest his residence, unless he obtains the consent of that Lodge for his admission into the Lodge to which he applies. The Grand Lodge of Ohio, in such cases, only requires the consent of the three principal officers of the said nearest Lodge. There is no Masonic authority for substituting the consent of the three principal officers of any Lodge for the will of a majority of the members of the Lodge. Let us adhere to the ancient landmarks of the Order.

"We make the following extracts from the report of the committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master : 'The number of our members is increasing more rapidly, perhaps, than at any former period of our history.

"Resolved, That our present state of unexampled prosperity is the legitimate result of a close adherence to the moral principles and ancient landmarks of our Order, and while we continue to walk by the same rule, and mind the same things, we shall have nothing to fear.'

"We find the laws of the Grand Lodge relating to Grand Lodge certificates, has been repealed by a unanimous vote. The Grand Lodge recommend the *Masonic Review*, a periodical, published by Brother C. Moore, of Cincinnati.

"Brother Griswold, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, makes the following report, in which your committee fully concur: 'The Grand Lodge of Virginia, by its committee on Foreign Correspondence, disapproves the practice of recording the yeas and nays, in deciding questions before the Grand Lodge, as a modern innovation highly unmasonic, which it regrets to see adopted, to some extent, in Maryland and Indiana.' The committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio concur in the opinion that the practice is irregular. The committee also animadvert upon the 'departure from Masonic usage, by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, by the introduction of popular usage into the laws for her government,' 'which provide for calling the *previous question*, &c., and making the motion to *adjourn* always in order.' These regulations are fraught with evils of no common magnitude, suspending, as they conceive, some of the established prerogatives of the Grand Master.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, take into consideration that interesting inquiry, whether *bodily infirmity* must necessarily exclude a candidate from our mysteries? They adopt the rule established by the Grand Lodges of Mississippi, Kentucky, Alabama, and Florida, and have done us the honor of republishing the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence on this subject, made at our last annual communication.

"The committee remarks that another new work has made its appearance within the past year, by Brother Cornelius Moore, of Cincinnati, entitled '*The Craftsman and Freemason's Guide*,' which they judge is destined to supersede all its predecessors, as a text-book for the Craft. Your committee regret that there is such a mania for *new works* on *old Masonry*. Would it not be the best course to satisfy the Craft, that the old works of Cross, Tannehill and Preston, are wrong, before a new work is presented to the Craft. The *Masonic Trestle-Board* has been a fire-brand—why scatter more? As we are perfectly satisfied with our old books on Masonry, and know that Masonry is at war with innovations, we are convinced that there is no necessity for a new *Masonic Manual*, and cannot but believe that the love of money, more than the love of the Order, induces these *new publications*. The committee seem to be aware of the inutility of a similar work, the *Masonic Trestle-Board*, of which they remark that the result has not been so favorable as its publishers must have hoped, as few have adopted it, while many have rejected it as inferior to the works of Webb, Cross, Tannehill, etc.

"In relation to a Masonic jurisdiction, the committee, in their report, accords with the report of your committee, made at our last

annual convocation, viz. : 'That applications should be made within the jurisdiction of the proper Grand Lodge, and to the Lodge nearest to the residence of the applicant.' The committee reports that the suspension from a Chapter or Encampment does not necessarily exclude from all Masonic privileges. In this decision, your committee are happy to observe a conformity to their report at our last annual convocation.

"The committee report in favor of Masonic education, and adverse to allowing visiting brethren to vote on the admission of candidates. In these two points, also, your committee are happy to find a concurrence with their last report. In fact, after a critical examination of the whole report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, your committee see nothing to censure, but much to praise and imitate, and would recommend its perusal especially to the committees on Foreign Correspondence of the several Grand Lodges.

"There is appended to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, an able and lucid Masonic oration, delivered at the dedication of the new Masonic Hall, at Cincinnati, June 24, 1846, by R. W. Brother O. M. Spencer, Grand Orator. The building cost \$30,000, one hundred and fifteen feet front, fifty-five feet deep—elevation, seventy-five feet. The Fraternity are indebted to the bounteous munificence of Brother William McMillen, for the erection of this beautiful temple, dedicated by the M. W. Grand Master, William B. Thrall. Highest number of Lodges reported, one hundred and thirty-nine. Amount for fees, etc., received by the Grand Lodge at the annual communication, October, 1846, three thousand five hundred and ten dollars and twenty-three cents. Initiations, six hundred and fifty-two; passed, five hundred and sixty-seven; raised, five hundred and thirty-three; admitted, one hundred and thirty-seven; withdrawn, three hundred and eleven; rejected, fifty-three; suspended, one hundred and thirteen; expelled, thirteen; reinstated, five; deaths, twenty-six; members of Lodges, two thousand two hundred and ninety-eight; Masons not members, two hundred and four; expelled, Abram Steinan, Scioto Lodge No. 6, Chillicothe; Hiram Rowley, Mt. Zion Lodge, No. 9, Mt. Vernon; James Jackson, Milford Lodge, No. 54; John K. Wade, Tuscarawas Lodge, No. 50; Canal Dover, Isaac P. Smith, Wadsworth and Seville Lodge, No. 74, Seville; Lewis P. Buckley, King Solomon's Lodge in perfection, No. 83, Akron; John Marshall, George Couser, and Morgan Kenardun, Minerva Lodge, No. 98, Miamisburg; Peter Still, wagoner, Moriah Lodge, No. 105, Jacobsburgh. M. W. William B. Thrall, Grand Master; R. W. M. Z. Kreider, Special Deputy of Most Worshipful Grand Master; R. W. Timothy Griffith, Deputy Grand Master; R. W. M. A. Dougherty, Grand Senior Warden; R. W. Adam Nigh, Grand Junior Warden.

"Your committee observe with surprise, that the Grand Master, by special warrant, appointed M. Z. Kreider, special Deputy of the Grand

Master, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of a church, whilst the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Timothy Griffith, was present. In England, where a nobleman is elected Grand Master, they permit him to appoint a Deputy Grand Master, instead of his being elected by the Grand Lodge, but he succeeds at all times to the power of the Grand Master in his absence, as if he had been elected by the Grand Lodge ; but it is an anomaly in Masonry to hear of two Deputy Grand Masters, one appointed by the Grand Master, on special occasions, who, in his absence, supersedes the Deputy Grand Master elected by the Grand Lodge, who, by all the constitutions of the Grand Lodges in the United States, except, perhaps, Ohio, is entitled to preside in the absence of the Grand Master, and is, in fact, generally entitled to concurrent jurisdiction with the Grand Master, unless expressly and directly restrained by him in any particular case.

"Standing committee on Foreign Correspondence : Ezra Griswold, chairman ; Kent Jarvis, Absalom Death, N. Benjamin, J. Cornelius. Past Grand Masters ; Charles Anthony, R. N. B. Fielding."

RHODE ISLAND

"Does not take into consideration the Representative system. They adopt the 'Rules for the Organization and Establishing a Grand Convention of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,' as passed by the Baltimore Convention, May, 1843. R. W. James Salsbury moved that the vote of January 8, 1844, adopting the work and lectures agreed upon by the National Masonic Convention be rescinded. Question postponed until the next communication in September.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence does not acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida. We are surprised at the omission, knowing the attention and punctuality of our Grand Secretary in forwarding our proceedings to the Secretaries of the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

"We make the following extract from the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence :

"Your committee fondly hope that the time is near at hand when the brethren of Vermont will awake from the lethargy into which they have fallen, and with renewed life and vigor, cultivate the vineyard they have so long neglected, until it flourish in unfading splendor, like the everlasting verdure of their own green hills.

"The R. W. Alvin Jenks, Grand Master *pro tem.*, laid the corner-stone of a Masonic Temple, about to be erected by Union Lodge, No. 10, and Pawtucket Royal Arch Chapter, No. 4, at Pawtucket, December 6th, 1846.

"George T. Nicholas and Rev. Lemuel Burge were expelled for selling property of the Lodge, and participating in the embezzlement of the funds. P. G. M. Rathburn suspended for one year.

"M. W. Seth Peck, Esq., Warren, Grand Master ; R. W. Alvin Jenks, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. William Field, Grand Senior Warden ;

R. W. George W. Marsh, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Moses Richardson, Past Grand Master ; M. W. Caleb Earle, Past Grand Master ; M. W. — Rathburn, Past Grand Master. Standing committee on Foreign Correspondence, William Field, Charles D. Greene, and James Hutchison."

LOUISIANA.

"We scarcely know what to report in relation to the proceedings and organization of this great Babel of Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Encampments. The Ancient York Rite prevails. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge acts also as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, and President of the Council of Knights Kadosh (thirtieth degree).

"There are nineteen Lodges working under the York Rite, and five in the Three rites.

"The following are the superior Masonic bodies attached to the Grand Lodge : Scotch Rite, Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General (thirty-third and last degree). Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Secret (thirty-second degree), under the jurisdiction of the above Supreme Council. Councils of Knights Kadosh (thirtieth degree) under the jurisdiction of the Grand Consistory. Chapters of Rose Croix (eighteenth degree), under the jurisdiction of the Grand Consistory. York Rite, Knights Templar, Encampment of Indivisible Friends under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Encampment of the United States, annexed to Polar Star Lodge. Holland Council of Royal and Select Masters, No. 1.

"The following resolution of the Grand Lodge was passed 27th November, 1845 :

"2. The Grand Lodge may authorize, by charter, the accumulation of what is called the Scottish and French Rites, as practiced on the continent of Europe, and in some other countries, to any Lodge now under her jurisdiction, or to any other that she may hereafter charter, according to the rites practiced in the United States ; but the latter, or Ancient York Rite, shall be considered as the national rite.

"The Lodges in the city of New Orleans, for initiation, require three secret ballots, had at three different meetings, each proving favorable to the application. It is scarcely necessary for your committee to remark that this regulation is in violation of the constitution of Ancient York Masonry, as the same remark would apply generally to the constitution and proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. We hope the time is not far distant, when light and order shall arrange this chaotic Masonic confusion.

"Grand officers, M. W. Felix Garcia, Grand Master, Grand High Priest, &c. ; R. W. Lucien Herman, Deputy Grand Master, Deputy Grand High Priest, &c. ; R. W. Francis Calongue, Grand Senior Warden, Grand King, &c. ; R. W. Joseph Sisbone, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Scribe, &c.

"Expelled—J. G. Smith, by Masonic Hearth Lodge, No. 4."

MICHIGAN.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge have either not been received or mislaid, which circumstance is much regretted by your committee from the evidence of Masonic worth hitherto exhibited by the proceedings of that Grand Lodge. We observe from the proceedings of 1845, that the Grand Lodge adopted the work approved and recommended by the National Convention of Grand Lodges held at the city of Baltimore, May, A. L. 5843. The Grand Officers for 1845, were M. W. John Mullett, Grand Master ; R. W. Ebenezer Hall, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Galvin Hotchkiss, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. Joshua B. Taylor, Grand Junior Warden. E. S. Lee, Chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence and Grand Secretary for 1845.

"Your committee acknowledge the receipt of a circular from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, with the following unanimous resolution :

"Resolved, That A. A. Muller, D.D., Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, be expelled from all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, for grossly immoral and unmasonic conduct."

MASSACHUSETTS

"Is opposed to the Representative system among the Lodges of the United States, but is in favor of the appointment of a Representative to the Grand Lodge of England, and appointed Rev. Brother William James Carver, of England, their representative to the Grand Lodge of England.

"The following resolution, offered by R. W. Brother Winslow Lewis, Jr., was unanimously adopted :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts deeply sympathize with the great Masonic Family, in the loss sustained by the decease of the R. W. ANDREW JACKSON, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee ; one of the firmest and most unwavering of Masons, and who, when elevated to the highest political office on earth, continued his attention and devotion to the Order.

、 "The Grand Lodge, no doubt by inadvertency, has styled our deceased brother R. W., when it should have been M. W.

"Your committee have read with peculiar pleasure, a communication from the patriarch R. W. Brother Henry Purkitt, a short time previous to his death, to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the eloquent and touching reply of the Grand Lodge to the R. W. Brother ; and also, that beautiful production, the Preamble and Resolutions offered by Brother Winslow Lewis, Jr., on the death of our R. W. Brother Henry Purkett, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and which were adopted by the Grand Lodge. We consider it a perfect specimen of obituary notice.

"The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is opposed to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge.

"They have constituted Brother George Oliver, D.D., of Scopwick, Lincolnshire, England, an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of

Massachusetts, with the rank and privilege of a Past Deputy Grand Master ; and have also constituted Brother Robert Thomas Crucifix, M.D., London, England, an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, with the rank and privileges of a Past Senior Grand Warden. Your committee are constrained by the duty which they owe to the Fraternity at large, and the constitutions and regulations of Ancient York Masonry, to protest against this innovation in our Order. There is no brevet rank in Masonry. Even when the degree of Past Master has been conferred upon a brother in a regularly constituted Lodge of Past Masters, yet he is not entitled to the rank and privileges of a Past Master until he has been regularly elected a Master of a Lodge, and received installation. We conceive no officer can be entitled to the rank and privileges of an office, or a past officer, until he has actually been elected and passed through the duties and term of his office ; and that it is not in the power of any Mason, or body of Masons, to remove the ancient landmarks of the Order. It is evidently an innovation, and we believe unprecedented in the annals of Masonry.

"M. W. S. W. Robinson, Grand Master ; R. W. Winslow Lewis, Jr., Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. E. A. Raymond, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. John R. Bradford, Grand Junior Warden. Past Grand Masters : 5816, M. W. Francis J. Oliver ; 5819, M. W. Hon. Samuel P. P. Fay ; 5823, M. W. Hon. John Abbot ; 5825, M. W. John Soley ; 5830, M. W. Joseph Jenkins ; 5835, M. W. Joshua B. Flint, M.D. ; 5838, M. W. Rev. Paul Dean ; 5840, M. W. Caleb Butler ; 5842, M. W. Augustus Peabody. Past Deputy Grand Masters : 5840, R. W. Simon W. Robinson ; 5843, R. W. John B. Hammett ; 5844, R. W. Rev. E. M. P. Wells. Nine District Deputy Grand Masters ; fifty-eight Lodges returned. No return of deaths, expulsions, or suspensions."

WISCONSIN.

"The Grand Master complains of Dubuque Lodge, in an adjoining State, conferring degrees on citizens living within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. We take it for granted, that as there appears to be but one opinion in relation to this subject, that justice will be done by the adjoining Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over Dubuque Lodge.

"The Grand Master contends that the right to vote upon the admission of candidates, should be given to every Mason present, whether a member of that particular Lodge or not, as the act of initiation will constitute the applicant a member of the whole family of Masons. There is some plausibility in this view of the subject, but your committee regard the rule, if established, as a violation of the rules and regulations of all Lodges from time immemorial, and of very doubtful result.

"In relation to a Masonic Convention, the Grand Master uses the

following language : 'In one word, it appears to me that, as feeble as its organization, as unproductive must necessarily be the results of such a convention.' 'Among the many expedients suggested, none appear so entirely adapted to our wants, so suited to all the ends required, and so analogous to the present Masonic and civil government in this country, as that of a General Grand Lodge.'

"He considers the Representative system as useless. If the objection of the wide extent of territory to be embraced in the jurisdiction of a General Grand Lodge be insurmountable, he suggests a confederation of the Lodges of the Western States. He says that as many distressed brethren, their widows and orphans are unknown and uncared for, the by-laws of each subordinate Lodge should provide for a standing committee, whose duty it should be to make suitable inquiry, and report to their respective Lodges those who may require aid.

"This last subject, we consider, particularly requires the attention of the Grand and subordinate Lodges of Florida.

"The Grand Master declares his opinion that persons residing in one State, who are made Masons within the jurisdiction of another State, returning to the State in which they reside, ought to be declared 'clandestine,' and Masonic intercourse with them interdicted. Your committee consider it impossible to make a clandestine Mason in a legal Lodge of Masons. It is a highly improper act in the Lodge conferring the degree, for which they are amenable to their own Grand Lodge, and should be punished by suspension of the Lodge, or withdrawal of its charter ; but the initiated is nevertheless a Mason, and entitled to all the benefits of the Order.

"The Grand Master makes a long argument in relation to the jurisdiction claimed over the Far West Lodge, in the State of Illinois, and at Elizabeth. The only question in relation to Masonic jurisdiction which now remains to be settled according to the decisions of the Grand Lodges of the United States, is identical with territorial jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of each Grand Lodge is coextensive with the limits of the State, Territory, or District of Columbia, in which ever it may be established. If the territorial limits are not settled, then the subordinate Lodge is under the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge situated in the State that exercises the present jurisdiction over the disputed Territory. The reply of the R. W. Charles H. Larralea, Grand Deputy Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to R. W. A. D. Smith, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, according to the opinion of your committee, takes the true ground in relation to *Masonic jurisdiction*. He states that '*the right of the Grand Lodge of Illinois to exclusive Masonic jurisdiction over the entire limits of this State, is asserted by her in its fullest sense.*'

"As the mere abstract question of right must not, nor does not now prevent the exercise of sovereignty, by Illinois, over the whole of her territory, as marked out by act of Congress, nor authorize its exercise

by a foreign State, so, the mere abstract right of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, derived from a question of right of civil jurisdiction, must not be set up as giving authority to extend, or exercise her Masonic jurisdiction over any part of the territorial limits of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. For, regarding even the rights of both parties, as equally balanced, the party in possession certainly has the right of exercising acts of ownership over the territory in dispute, and especially when in possession by operation of law.'

"The Grand Lecturer in his communication to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, uses the following language :

"Some Lodges have been in the habit of calling from labor to refreshment, not only from day to day, but from week to week, which I conceive to be highly improper. They should *adjourn* from time to time.'

"With due deference to the opinion of the Grand Lecturer, we believe, according to the immemorial Masonic custom and usage, he is *exactly* wrong, and the Lodges *exactly* right in this particular. There are but two ways known, in the proceedings of Ancient Masonic Lodges, of *adjourning virtually*, viz., either by calling off to a stated period, or closing until the next regular meeting of the Lodge. The word *adjourn* is unmasonic ; and has of late years been transferred from the proceedings of popular assemblies, to the proceedings of Lodges.

"The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, wishes to know in whom the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master is vested, when that person or officer is absent? Whether the Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Senior Warden? Your committee supposed, that if there was any principle more fully established in Masonry than another, it was that the next officer in grade succeeded to the rights and privileges of his immediate superior ; and that there could be no question of the right of the Deputy Grand Master to discharge the duties of the Grand Master in his absence.

"Your committee are gratified in the subsequent proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, as illustrated in the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That, hereafter, no dispensation shall be granted by this Grand Lodge, in any case, for the formation of any new Lodge in any other State, or Territory, where there is a Grand Lodge, without the consent of the Grand Lodge of such State or Territory, where such new Lodge is proposed to be formed.

"The following resolution, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, seems to be in violation of Masonic usage, as laid down in funeral processions, by J. Cross and others, viz.:

"Resolved, That the Lodges, under this jurisdiction, be instructed to exclude Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts from funeral processions.

"We are aware that this is a rule generally considered correct

amongst Masons. But, upon examinations of the formation of funeral processions, particular stations are assigned to Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, report in favor of triennial conventions—are opposed to the Representative system—in favor of appointing a delegate to Europe—in favor of a General Grand Lodge. The committee, in argument, say: 'For, instead of taking it for granted, that certain officers may make Masons *at sight*, your committee take the reverse for granted; for reasons previously assigned in this report.' They report, by resolution, 'that it is unmasonic for any subordinate Lodge within the United States, to initiate, pass, or raise a citizen from any other State, without ascertaining from the Grand Secretary of the State of such applicant's residence, whether he has there applied for initiation,'—your committee say, not even then, without the consent of the Grand Lodge of the State in which the applicant resides. The committee are opposed to Grand Lodge certificates.

"The committee state: 'That in the absence of any constitutional provision granting the power to a Grand Lodge, as such, the right of a Lodge to try its Master is an inherent right, and still retained by the subordinate Lodges.' Your committee dissent, and refer to their views expressed in this report, and that made at the last communication.

"The committee report, that it is not in the power of Grand Lodges to confer the degree of Past Master, except on Masters duly elected to preside over a Lodge. Your committee are of opinion that no higher degree than a Master can be conferred by a Grand Lodge in any case. The charters of all Blue Lodges give authority only to enter, pass, and raise to the Master's degree; and a Grand Lodge, as the committee contends, derives all its powers from the subordinate Lodges. They, of course, cannot give more power than they possess. If the Grand Lodge can confer the Past degree, they certainly can confer the Mark degree, which is below the Past degree; and if they can confer the Past and Mark, why not the other degrees of the Chapter?

"The committee state that the following extract is from the new constitution of the Grand Lodge of Hanover, viz.: 'A candidate who is blackballed three times can never be proposed again.' Your committee believe the rule is about as *new* as the constitution. The old rule is to delay the candidate twelve months after each rejection.

"We consider the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, the most able, elaborate, and well arranged Masonic communication we have ever seen, and particularly recommend its perusal to the Masonic Fraternity at large.

"M. W. Abram D. Smith, Grand Master, Milwaukee; R. W. and Rev. Rufus Spaulding, Deputy Grand Master, Platteville, Grant county; R. W. Thomas P. Burnett, Grand Senior Warden, Patch Grove, Grant

county ; R. W. Mason C. Darling, Grand Junior Warden, Fond du Lac ; M. W. B. T. Kavanaugh, Past Grand Master. Committee on Foreign Correspondence : Wm. R. Smith, Grand Marshal ; Thomas P. Burnett, Grand Junior Warden. Ten Lodges represented. No expulsions or suspensions."

ILLINOIS.

"Committee on Foreign Correspondence report in favor of that rule, that, 'if the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being *instructed* in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, his admission will be permitted ; which rule is sustained by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Wisconsin, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. The habit of admitting temporary residents to the Order, is opposed ; and the views of the Grand Lodge, in this particular, sustained by the Grand Lodges of Maryland, Arkansas, and Florida.

"Reports in opposition to conventions, and in favor of General Grand Lodge :—The committee remarks : It is time that we should surrender our claim to absolute infallibility, and constitute one Supreme Power, with adequate authority for all. This, doubtless, constituted a principal reason for the organization of the two Grand Lodges of England ; and was, afterwards, the cause of merging those into one Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Maryland has expressed views in accordance : *Provided*, a majority of the Grand Lodges of the different States shall concur in the measure and appoint delegates. In this way, the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States was formed, in 1798. The Grand Lodge of Hanover has formally recognized the great principle, in balloting for a candidate for initiation, that every visiting brother shall have a right to vote, because the candidate, when initiated, becomes a member of the Craft in general—with which, the same committee concur.

"Grand Lodge certificates not absolutely necessary : Grand Lodges of Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, Indiana, Rhode Island, Ohio, and Florida, concurring.

"In relation to Masonic education, the committee report, that 'foremost in this human cause, stands the Grand Lodge of Missouri, seconded by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Mississippi, Indiana, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama.'

"Masonic periodicals recommended to be subscribed for, by each subordinate Lodge, and to constitute a Masonic Library.

"Committee report against the Representative system, as of recent origin, and all the objects sought to be effected could be more effectually done by the establishment of a General Grand Lodge. This view is sustained by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

"The fourth Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, provides, that 'the expulsion or suspension of a brother from a Royal Arch Chapter, or Encampment of Knights Templar, shall not

operate as an expulsion or suspension from the Lodge of which he is a member.' The Grand Lodges of Illinois and Maryland dissent. Your committee fully concur with the provision of the constitution of Wisconsin, and refer to a former part of this report, and to that made at the last annual communication, to sustain the position.

"The rule adopted by the Triennial Convention of Baltimore, that 'no subordinate Lodge can try its own Master, but that he is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone,' is sustained by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi—opposed by the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire and Illinois. Your committee concur with the Baltimore Convention, and refer to their report at the last annual communication.

"The committee contend for the right of conferring the degree of Past Master, by a Lodge of Past Masters, independent of a Chapter. Your committee dissent, and refer to a former part of this report, and to their report made at the last annual communication.

"M. W. and Rev. William F. Walker, of Chicago, Grand Master ; R. W. Nelson D. Morse, of Henderson, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Edgar Bogardus, of Shawneetown, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. John R. Crandall, of Pekin, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Alexander Dunlap, and M. W. Levi Lusk, Past Grand Masters. Committee on Foreign Correspondence : M. W. William T. Walker, Grand Master ; R. W. John R. Crandall, Grand Junior Warden, and Master of Pekin Lodge, No. 29, Pekin ; and M. W. Alexander Dunlap, Past Grand Master. Twenty-five Lodges returned. No returns from five Lodges. Expelled—Edward C. Curtis, Rushville Lodge, No. 9 ; John G. Stewart, St. John's Lodge, No. 13. Five Lodges under dispensation. No returns.

"Your committee particularly direct your attention to the rules adopted by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, in relation to the admission of candidates, and recommend that they be engrafted into our constitution, viz.:

"That all petitions for initiation, or membership, be presented and acted upon, at stated meetings of the Lodges. Action upon them in no case, however, to be had (unless cases of emergency), in less than one lunar month from their reception. The petition when received, must be referred and acted upon, and may not be withdrawn. When acted upon, if the action be unfavorable, another Lodge may not ballot for the same individual at all. Nor may the same Lodge ballot for him a second time, within twelve months. Rejections or suspensions are to be noted, and returned with particulars to the Grand Lodge, and by the Grand Lodge alone, ordered to be published."

MISSOURI.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master states in his address to the Grand Lodge :

"' Since our last Grand annual communication much complaint has been made to me by Past Masters, growing out of a clause in our by-

laws, requiring subordinate Lodges to confer the degree of Past Master on their Wardens. The assumption of such a power by a Grand Lodge, composed of a majority of Master Masons, is, perhaps, not without example ; but it does not therefore follow that the principle is correct. It is certainly desirable that the Grand Lodge should not assume doubtful powers.'

"Your committee have already expressed their opinion, that they do not consider that a Grand Lodge has the right to confer the Past Master's degree even on the Master of a Lodge. They do not see the shadow of authority for conferring the Past Master's degree on a Warden, who has never been elected a Master of a Lodge. We are happy to observe, by a subsequent resolution of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, that these views, expressed by your committee, in relation to conferring the Past Master's degree on Wardens, have been acknowledged as correct.

"*Resolved*, That so much of Article 6, Section 2, of the by-laws of this Grand Lodge as requires the degree of Past Master to be conferred on the Wardens of a Lodge subordinate to this jurisdiction, be repealed.

"Grand Lodge certificates required by the Grand Lodge.

"The Masonic College, at St. Louis, is in a flourishing condition.

"Hon. J. W. S. Mitchell, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Fayette ; R. W. John D. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master, St. Louis ; R. W. Edward S. Ruggles, Grand Senior Warden, Caledonia ; R. W. John F. L. Jacoby, Grand Junior Warden, Clarksville ; R. W. Frederick L. Billon, Past Deputy Grand Master.

"Committee on Foreign Correspondence : R. W. Frederick L. Billon, Past Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Charles Levy, Grand Senior Deacon ; John Scott, Worshipful Master, Danville Lodge, No. 72 ; R. W. John D. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master ; Stephen W. B. Carnegie, Grand Lecturer and Most Worshipful Past Grand Master. Seven Deputy Grand Masters—seven Grand Chaplains. Made returns, thirty-eight Lodges ; no returns, twelve Lodges ; not represented, twenty-one Lodges ; chartered Lodges, forty-five ; under dispensation five ; together, fifty Lodges. Lodges Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, are extinct. Harmony, 24 ; Springfield, 26 ; Temperance, 27 ; and St. Clair, 60, are in Illinois, and have united with that Grand Lodge. Des Moines, 41 ; Iowa, 42 ; Dubuque, 62 ; Iowa City, 63, are in Iowa, and have organized the Grand Lodge of Iowa. Mineral Point, 49 ; and Melody, 65, are in Wisconsin, and have united with the Grand Lodge of that Territory. No charters were ever issued, numbered, 37, 38, and 44.

"Expelled—Thomas L. Amiss, Naphthali Lodge, No. 25 ; John W. Hyde and James B. Hart, of St. John's, No. 28.

"John W. Bowen, Palmyra, No. 18, suspended for fifty years."

TEXAS

"Called communication Monday, June 23, A. D., 1845, A. L. 5845, at Austin. On the 24th June, the Grand Lodge joined in procession, in celebration, with Washington Lodge, No. 18. The procession then proceeded to the Representative Hall, and listened to an eloquent oration from Brother Josiah Crosby, and partook of a feast prepared by Washington Lodge.

"The committee, to whom was referred the proceedings of Washington Lodge, made a report, and offered the following resolutions which were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That Washington Lodge, No. 18, receive from the Grand Master a reprimand for the unmaasonic and irregular proceedings, which have been permitted in their labors.

"*Resolved*, That, should innovations and irregularities continue, or similar instances occur, which have come to the notice of your committee, they would recommend that their labors, as a Lodge, be suspended. •

"Grand Lodge certificates required.

"The thanks of the Grand Lodge returned to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the very valuable present of the *Masonic Discourses*, by Joseph R. Chandler.

"Your committee observe the following notice of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge :

" 'THURSDAY, June 15, A. L. 5846.

" 'Grand Officers present : R. W. P. G. M. John A. Green, presiding.' It should have been M. W. P. G. M., &c.

"The committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Montgomery Lodge, report :

" 'That no Lodge can act under a new by-law until it is ratified by the Grand Lodge ; and much less one under dispensation, which has no by-laws but those of the nearest Lodge.'

"Unless there is a particular clause in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas, upon these subjects, the committee are certainly mistaken, and if there be, your committee would respectfully recommend its reconsideration by the Grand Lodge of Texas. The doctrine that a Lodge, under dispensation, is to be governed by the by-laws of the nearest Lodge, is passing strange to your committee.

"Anson Jones, Representative, Grand Lodge of New York.

"On motion, Brothers P. W. Gray and T. J. Hardiman, were appointed a committee to invite Brother Past Grand Secretary, George Fisher, to a seat in this Grand communication.

"We extract the following from the remarks of the Deputy Grand Master :

" 'In granting dispensations for the conferring degrees on candidates before they have served their regular time, I have used due caution,' &c.

"Your committee have, in a former part of this report, expressed their opinion that no Grand Officer, or Grand Lodge, has a right to

dispense with any of the ancient usages, or constitutions of Masonry ; that we consider the time of probation, one month for inquiry (unless in actual cases of emergency, to be so voted by the Lodge), is one of the ancient landmarks of the Order, which cannot be changed by any authority.

" Brother T. G. Western, Representative to M. W. Grand Lodge of Venezuela ; Brother Richard Lee Wilson, of London, Representative near United Grand Lodge of England ; Brother G. K. Toulon, of Calcutta, Representative in Asia ; Brother Lewis Feuchtwanger, Representative in New York.

" Since the last annual communication there have been charters sent to Graham Lodge, No. 20 ; Trinity Lodge, No. 21 ; Marshall Lodge, No. 22 ; Montgomery Lodge, at Montgomery ; Olive Branch Lodge, at Cincinnati ; and Frontier Lodge, at Corpus Christi.

" The Grand Secretary further reports, that the *American Masonic Register*, published at Albany, N. Y., and the *Freemason's Monthly Magazine*, published at Boston, are regularly received. One number of the *Freemason's Quarterly Review*, published in London, has also been received.

" The following resolutions were adopted :

" *Resolved*, That Brother Geo. W. Chayter, of the city of Wilmington, be appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near the Grand Lodge in the State of Delaware.

" *Resolved*, That Brother John S. Cogdell, Past Grand Master, of Charleston, S. C., be appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

" *Resolved*, That Brother John P. Duval, Past Grand Master of Florida, be appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near the Grand Lodge of Florida.

" The following resolution was offered by Brother G. W. Mason, which corresponds with the views of your committee, as just expressed ; and which, we regret to see, was laid on the table :

" *Resolved*, That the District Deputy Grand Masters shall not authorize the conferring of degrees by dispensation, unless it be declared an emergency by the unanimous ballot of the Lodge.

" Brother B. Gillespie introduced R. W. Past Grand Master James Webb, who presented his credentials, and was received as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Florida, near this Grand Lodge.

" Your committee would suggest the propriety of the title of *M. W.* Past Grand Master James Webb, and not *R. W.*, which is the title of the Deputy Grand Master, or Past Deputy Grand Master.

" Your committee offer the following resolution for adoption by this Grand Lodge :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer pay to the Grand Secretary twenty-five dollars for the purpose of purchasing the regalia and jewel for our representative, near the Grand Lodge of Texas, the Hon. M. W. Past Grand Master James Webb, of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

"The following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge is anxious to promote the universality of Masonry, of the constitutions and work, and do most respectfully recommend this subject to our sister Grand Lodges, Chapters, Councils, Encampments, and Orients in America.

"*Resolved*, That a Universal Convention is hereby recommended of all legal masonic bodies, to be holden at London, on the first Monday of July, A. D. 1850.

"*Resolved*, That the delegate to the Triennial Convention of Grand Lecturers, and our representatives everywhere, be instructed to oppose, unequivocally, anything tending towards the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

"Your committee have before reported in favor of a General Grand Lodge, and would respectfully refer the Grand Lodge of Texas to our present report upon that subject, and the report made by your committee at our last annual communication.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have made no report.

"Your committee regret to see the following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Texas, to which we alluded in our last annual communication, are still in force :

"*Resolved*, That, in balloting for degrees in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, one blackball shall reject the candidate for one year ; two blackballs shall reject for two years ; and three or more for four years.

"*Resolved*, That a certain portion of the proceedings of Graham Lodge, No. 20, which decides that a petitioner could not withdraw his petition previous to balloting, be, and the same is hereby annulled.

"It does seem to your committee a little remarkable that so intelligent a body as the Grand Lodge of Texas should continue these two resolutions in force, which are, so manifestly, violations of the ancient rules, regulations, and constitutions of the Order. We take it for granted, that the attention of the Grand Lodge has not been directed to these subjects. Your committee refer the Grand Lodge of Texas to a former part of this report, and the report made at our last communication in relation to these points.

"We find that the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Texas have been incorporated.

"We congratulate the brethren of Texas on the rapid rise and progress of Masonry in their flourishing State.

"M. W. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Master ; R. W. E. W. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. G. M. Patrick, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. T. J. Hardiman, Grand Junior Warden ; M. W. Barry Gillespie, Past Grand Master ; M. W. James Webb, Past Grand Master ; M. W. John A. Grier, Past Grand Master ; M. W. Anson Jones, Past Grand Master ; R. W. T. G. Western, Past Deputy Grand Master ; and four District Deputy Grand Masters.

"Nineteen Lodges returned.

"The following Lodges were represented : Holland Lodge, No. 1 ; Harmony, No. 6 ; Matagorda, No. 7 ; Milan, No. 11 ; Austin, No. 12 ; Constantine, No. 13 ; Friendship, No. 16 ; Orphans' Friend, No. 17 ; Washington, No. 18 ; Forest, No. 19 ; Graham, No. 20 ; Lathrop, No.

21 ; Marshall, No. 22 ; Montgomery, No. 25 ; Olive Branch, No. 26 ; Paris, No. 27 ; and Frontier, No. 28.

"No returns from Matagorda, No. 7 ; De Kalb, No. 9 ; Friendship, No. 16 ; De Witt Clinton Lodge, U. D.

"Expelled—W. D. C. Hall, Jr., of Washington Lodge, No. 18. Reinstated—James A. Mason, C. H. Jaeger, A. H. Osburn, A. P. Thompson, Holland Lodge, No. 1.

"Your committee have received through the Grand Secretary a communication from Brother J. Randolph Finley, President of the Masonic College of Kentucky. He says that :

"As our effort is of a purely Masonic character, and one which must deeply interest the Fraternity everywhere, I trust you will excuse the liberty I take in saying to you that we are engaged in forming a library, and collections of minerals, etc., and will properly appreciate and duly acknowledge in our next annual report to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky any donations of books, maps, coins, minerals, shells, etc., which you may find it convenient to make.

"NOTE.—Since this report was made, the Grand Secretary has received a communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Vermont, held at Burlington, on the second Wednesday of January, 1847, giving the names of the Grand Officers elected for the ensuing year : M. W. Philip C. Tucker, Grand Master ; R. W. John Brainard, Deputy Grand Master ; R. W. Samuel S. Butler, Grand Senior Warden ; R. W. Joshua Doane, Grand Junior Warden ; R. W. Dan. Lyon, Grand Treasurer ; R. W. John B. Hollenbeck, Grand Secretary. With the autographs of the five principal officers.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman.*"

The committee on Finance and Accounts made the following report :

"The committee on Finance and Accounts, have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary, to them referred, which they find correct as stated.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, GRAND SECRETARY, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA.

1846.

DR.

December 8.	To cash received for dues from	Jackson Lodge, No. 1,	\$23 00
"	"	Washington " " 2,	27 00
"	"	Harmony " " 3,	39 00
"	"	Hiram " " 5,	22 00
"	"	Franklin " " 6,	30 00
"	"	Madison " " 11,	21 00
"	"	St. John's " " 12,	20 00
"	"	Escambia " " 15,	16 00
"	"	Santa Rosa, U. D. " 16,	7 00
"	"	For Charter for Escambia " 15,	80 00

CR.

\$275 00

By salary to the Grand Secretary, \$50 00

By cash paid P. A. Hayward, for stationery, No. 1, 12 00

By cash paid for postage, 1 27

By balance in the Grand Secretary's hands, 211 73

\$275 00

"The committee further report that it appears by the report of the committee on Accounts last year that there was

Due to the late Grand Secretary for advances for the purchase of Masonic Hall, \$262 07
And that he subsequently received, as by his report :

From Washington Lodge, No. 2, for dues of last year, . . .	\$25 00
From St. John's Lodge, No. 12, for dues of last year, . . .	29 00
From Escambia Lodge, No. 15, for dues of last year, . . .	9 00

\$63 00

And that he paid the Grand Tyler by order of the Grand Lodge, \$3 00

And expended for postage, 64

\$3 64—\$59 36

Now due the late Grand Secretary, \$202 71

"The following accounts have been presented to the committee, which they have examined and find correct, and recommend that they be allowed and paid :

"To the *Floridian* office for printing the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge, forty dollars and fifty cents.

"To Isaac W. Bowen, for putting a new roof on the Masonic Hall, and other repairs, under the direction of the committee on the Masonic Hall, ninety-five dollars.

"The committee further recommend, that the present Grand Secretary-elect be authorized to receive from the late Grand Secretary the balance, as reported in his hands, of \$211 73, and pay the Grand Tyler for his services at this Grand annual communication, ten dollars ; and and pay to Santa Rosa Lodge seven dollars, remitted by order of this Grand Lodge. Also, pay to Hiram Lodge, No. 5, two dollars, and Madison Lodge, No. 11, one dollar, overpaid on their dues to this Grand Lodge, and receive from Franklin Lodge, No. 6, seven dollars, added to its dues, as arranged and corrected by the committee on returns ; and, after appropriating five dollars to the Grand Secretary to defray postage expense, etc., there will remain a balance against the Grand Lodge of one hundred and forty-four dollars. The committee beg leave, therefore, to submit the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to all the subordinate Lodges, with the exception of Dade Lodge, No. 14, and Santa Rosa Lodge, U. D., No. 16, to transmit to the Grand Secretary each the sum of eighteen dollars, as soon as practicable, for the purpose of paying the above indebtedness ; which sum is to be considered as a loan or advance to the Grand Lodge, and to be credited by the Grand Secretary, to the respective subordinate Lodges in the payment of their next annual dues ; and that the Grand Secretary make report thereof to the next Grand annual communication.

"The committee will here remark that, there being no acting Grand Treasurer during the last year, and no funds in hand to go into the Grand Lodge treasury, there has been no Grand Treasurer's account exhibited for examination and settlement.

"All which is respectfully submitted,

"GEO. F. BALTZELL, *Chairman.*"

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Which report was read and approved, and the resolution adopted.

There appearing no further business before the Grand Lodge at this time, it was closed in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer, until the next Grand annual communication, unless sooner called by order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

JESSE COE, *Grand Master.*

THOS. BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. The style and title of this Grand Lodge, shall be the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall hold a Grand annual communication, once in every year, commencing on the second Monday in January, at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee.

SEC. 3. The Grand Lodge shall not be opened to work, unless there be present a Representation from at least five Lodges subordinate thereto.

SEC. 4. All members of the Grand Lodge shall be properly invested with their Jewels and clothing before they take their seats ; except under very peculiar circumstances, a member may be permitted to take his seat, for the time being, without his proper Jewels, by consent of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. The members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Past Grand Secretaries, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Masters who are members of subordinate Lodges, the Masters and Wardens of subordinate Lodges, or their proxies ; and one Representative from each subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 2. The appointment of Representative must be made by the Worshipful Master, by and with the consent of the Lodge, to be certified by the Secretary thereof, under the seal of the Lodge.

SEC. 3. The Representative of a subordinate Lodge must be a Master Mason, and a member of the Lodge he represents ; and no Representative shall be entitled to a vote in this Grand Lodge, until the dues of the Lodge he represents are paid or remitted.

SEC. 4. In the election of Grand Officers, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to constitute a choice ; and no Grand Officer shall be eligible to election to the same office for a longer period than two consecutive years, except the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. The Officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected annually, on the third day of the session, by a majority of the written ballots, to be given as hereinafter provided; which ballots shall be collected by the Grand Senior Deacon, and shall be by him delivered to a teller (to be designated by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or the officer presiding, for the occasion) to be counted; and the Grand Secretary shall, by order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or officer presiding, proclaim the result. And during the time the Grand Senior Deacon is collecting the ballots and the Grand Secretary is proclaiming the officers elected, every member shall be silent, and keep his seat. The Grand Senior Deacon shall not present the ballot-box to any voter, until the Grand Secretary shall have called upon him to answer, beginning with the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and continuing the voters downwards, according to seniority. If it is found, on counting the ballots, that there are more ballots than there are voters, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or the officer presiding, shall charge the members to be more attentive to their duties, and order another ballot; and if any member is convicted of putting more ballots in the box than he is entitled to, he shall forever be debarred from a seat in the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. No person shall be elected an officer of the Grand Lodge, unless he be a Master Mason, and a member of a Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and entitled to a seat in the same: *Provided*, he is not thereby raised to a dignity higher than which he may have attained in a subordinate Lodge, working under this jurisdiction; and before entering on the duties of his office, he shall be duly installed.

SEC. 3. The Officers to be elected by the Grand Lodge, are the

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND SENIOR WARDEN,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND SECRETARY,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER,
RIGHT REVEREND GRAND CHAPLAIN.

And the Officers to be appointed, are the

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,
GRAND ORATOR,
GRAND LECTURER,
GRAND SENIOR DEACON,
GRAND JUNIOR DEACON,
GRAND MARSHAL,
GRAND SWORD-BEARER,
GRAND PURSUIVANT,
GRAND TYLER.

And they shall be titled and ranked as above arranged.

SEC. 4. The Grand Officers elected, and the Past Grand Officers, who are members of this Grand Lodge, are each entitled to one vote. The Worshipful Master and Wardens, or their proxies, and the Representative of each subordinate Lodge, are collectively entitled to one vote ; and Past Masters of subordinate Lodges in each District, have, collectively, one vote. And should the Masters and Wardens, and the Representative of any subordinate Lodge, or the Past Masters of any District, be equally divided in opinion upon any question, the vote of such subordinate Lodge, or District, shall be lost. No new Lodge shall be entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, until the same has been regularly chartered, and its officers installed. No Grand Officer, or Past Grand Officer, shall be entitled to more than one vote, unless he be the Representative of some subordinate Lodge, or the proxy for the Master, or one of the Wardens for some subordinate Lodge, except in case of the casting vote of the Most Worshipful Grand Master or presiding officer, who shall have the casting vote in all cases, except in the election of Grand Officers. No member can delegate his right of voting to another, under any circumstances whatever.

SEC. 5. Any Grand Officer withdrawing from membership in the subordinate Lodge of which he was a member at the time of his election, shall vacate his seat in the Grand Lodge, unless he be admitted to membership in some other subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to appoint all committees, and at the commencement of each Grand Annual Communication, to appoint the following standing committees, to consist of three members each, who shall be members of the Grand Lodge : *Provided*, That any of the said committees may be increased to a larger number, by a vote of the Grand Lodge :

1. A committee on Accounts, whose duty it shall be to examine the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and all other accounts submitted to them by the Grand Lodge, and make report upon the same.

2. A committee on Ways and Means, whose duty it shall be to take into consideration the state of the funds and finances of the Grand Lodge, and report such measures as they may deem expedient for the benefit of the Fraternity ; and to act on all such matters as may be to them referred.

3. A committee on Propositions and Grievances, whose duty it shall be to inquire into, and report upon all appeals to the Grand Lodge, from decisions of subordinate Lodges ; and to consider and report upon all matters of complaint or proposition, that may be to them referred.

4. A committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, whose duty it shall be to examine the work and by-laws of Lodges under dispensation, and report thereon.

5. A committee on Foreign Correspondence, whose duty it shall be to examine and make report upon all communications from other Grand Lodges, and other correspondence with this Grand Lodge; and when deemed necessary, this committee may hold its sittings during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

6. A committee on Returns, whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon the returns from subordinate Lodges, and the credentials of Representatives and Proxies.

7. A committee on Visitors, whose duty it shall be to examine and accommodate all visiting brethren, and see that none are admitted, unless they are Master Masons.

8. A committee on Unfinished Business, whose duty it shall be to report the unfinished business of the previous Grand communication.

9. A committee on Education, whose duty it shall be to take the subject of Schools under their consideration, and to report upon such subjects of Education as may be, from time to time, referred to them.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. The duty of the Grand Lodge is to receive all appeals, redress grievances, and remove complaints of the subordinate Lodges; to grant warrants, or charters, and authorize new Lodges, to regulate their work, reprehend mal-conduct in any of the subordinate Lodges, relieve distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, assess such reasonable contributions for charity and other exigencies, from time to time, as shall appear proper for the good of the Craft; to correspond with every Grand Lodge on the Globe, so far as they may deem right, for the good of the Fraternity, and to devise and design plans, problems, and positions for the subordinate Lodges to execute; and, also, to choose and elect all the officers of this Grand Lodge, and duly install them.

SEC. 2. Any subordinate Lodge which shall not be represented for three successive Grand annual communications, or which shall at any time be in arrears for more than twelve months, shall be cited to appear at the next Grand annual communication, and if it shall then fail to make due representation and payment, and account satisfactorily for its delinquency, the charter shall be arrested. Nor shall any subordinate Lodge be entitled to vote, either by its representative, its officers, or their proxies, or Past Masters, unless its dues to the Grand Lodge are fully paid or remitted: *Provided*, That if any subordinate Lodge, that has incurred a forfeiture of its charter by delinquency, shall make due returns and payment of dues, at the next succeeding communication of the Grand Lodge, and shall make satisfactory explanation for its defalcation, it may be reinstated without any additional expense.

SEC. 3. Every subordinate Lodge shall pay annually, into the Grand Lodge fund, for each initiation for the preceding year, the sum of one

dollar, and for each member of the Lodge, the sum of one dollar, except ministers of the Gospel, who may be initiated, passed, and raised, and retain membership, free from fees or dues.

SEC. 4. It is the duty of every subordinate Lodge to assemble for work at least once a month, except the months of July, August, and September, in which months they may meet, or not, at their option.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of every subordinate Lodge to make a complete return of its members at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge ; stating particularly the date of each initiation, passing, and raising ; the Masonic grade of its members ; admissions, withdrawals, reinstatements, rejections, suspensions, expulsions, and deaths ; together with the time and place of its stated meetings, agreeably to such form as may be prescribed by the Grand Secretary ; which return must be signed by the Worshipful Master, and attested by the Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge, and accompanied with the whole amount of its dues to the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 6. No subordinate Lodge can, at a called meeting, alter, amend, or rescind any part of the proceedings adopted at a regular meeting. No subordinate Lodge shall initiate any candidate, who has been once rejected, within one year after such rejection ; nor shall confer any degree on a brother who has been initiated in another Lodge, without first obtaining, if practicable, the permission of such Lodge, and a certificate that he has complied with all its requisitions.

SEC. 7. All petitions for initiation must lie over one month, and no Lodge shall confer more than one degree on the same candidate at the same meeting, unless it be considered an actual case of emergency : nor pass or raise a brother, unless he shall have given, by examination in open Lodge, satisfactory evidence of proficiency in the preceding degree.

SEC. 8. No Lodge shall admit to membership any brother Mason in arrears to another Lodge, or to an extinct Lodge, at the time of its demise, until he shall have paid to the Grand Lodge the arrears due to such extinct Lodge. No Lodge shall change its place of meeting from one village, town, city, or county, to another, without first obtaining permission from the Grand Lodge. No Lodge shall elect any member as its Master, except Wardens or Past Masters ; nor shall any subordinate Lodge have the right to try its Master ; but any five members of a Lodge, may impeach their Master, by filing charges and specifications against him, with the Grand Secretary, who shall cite him before the Grand Lodge, to answer the same ; and the proceedings against him shall be as provided for in other cases of trial.

SEC. 9. No member of a subordinate Lodge shall be suspended, or expelled, for non-payment of dues ; but a member of a Lodge may be stricken from the roll of membership for refusing to pay his dues ; and no publication shall be made of suspensions for a shorter time than one year.

ARTICLE VI.

SECTION 1. The Most Worshipful Grand Master is invested with power to convene the Grand Lodge at any time when he shall think the emergency and the good of the Craft require it.

SEC. 2. In case of a vacancy in any Grand Office, either by the death or resignation of any Grand Officer, or from any other cause, the Most Worshipful Grand Master is invested with the power to fill such vacancy, by appointment and installation, until the election at the next Grand annual communication.

SEC. 3. The Most Worshipful Grand Master has the command of every other officer, and may call on any and all of them, at any time, for advice and assistance on business relative to the Craft.

SEC. 4. The Most Worshipful Grand Master is invested with the power of granting dispensations for new Lodges, under this jurisdiction, during the recess of the Grand Lodge; and in his absence, or inability to act, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master is invested with the same powers.

SEC. 5. In case of the death, resignation, or refusal to serve, or be installed, of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, all the powers, authority, and privileges appertaining to his station, shall devolve upon, and be performed by the following Grand Officers, according to the grade and succession, as herein specified: First, upon the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master; secondly, upon the Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden; thirdly, upon the Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden; fourthly, the Past Grand Officers, according to rank and seniority; fifthly, the presiding Masters of subordinate Lodges, according to rank; and sixthly, Past Masters of subordinate Lodges, according to rank and seniority; and in this order shall their right to preside be determined, in the absence of any superior officer.

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 1. It is the duty of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to install the Deputy Grand Master; but he may depute any Master Mason to install the other officers of the Grand Lodge, or any officer of a subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 2. It is the duty of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to subscribe in the presence of the Grand Lodge, its proceedings, after they shall have been read by the Grand Secretary, and approved by a majority of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. It is the duty of the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain to address the Throne of Divine Grace, in a prayer, at the opening and closing of every Grand Lodge, and to officiate on all other suitable occasions.

SEC. 4. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, before they enter upon the discharge of their duties, shall each enter into bond, with satisfactory security, in such penalty as the Most Worshipful Grand

Master shall direct, payable to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Florida ; which bond shall be conditioned to receive and pay over all moneys which may belong to the Grand Lodge, and at all times to hand over all, or any part of said moneys, bonds, notes, or other property in their hands belonging to the Grand Lodge, upon requisition of the Grand Lodge, or its authorized agent, and in all respects to discharge the duties appertaining to their office, or imposed by the Grand Lodge. The bond of the Grand Secretary shall be filed with the Grand Master, and the bond of the Grand Treasurer with the Grand Secretary.

SEC. 5. It is the duty of the Grand Secretary to keep a fair and regular record, in proper books for that purpose, of all the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. He shall not record any proceedings that are not duly adopted or ordered by the Grand Lodge ; and when read and approved by the Grand Lodge, he shall publish with its proceedings.

SEC. 6. No warrant, certificate, or other instrument of writing, shall be of any validity, if issued by the Grand Secretary, unless attested by his signature, and with the seal of the Grand Lodge affixed thereto, except receipts and warrants upon the Treasurer, which need not have the Grand Lodge seal affixed thereto.

SEC. 7. All the books, records, papers, seals, etc., kept by the Grand Secretary, shall be the property of the Grand Lodge, and shall be delivered to any agent or committee appointed by order of the Grand Lodge for that purpose, when so required.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to attend, personally, all meetings of the Grand Lodge, and have present all necessary books and papers of his office ; but if prevented from attendance by unavoidable cause, he may appoint a deputy, to be approved by the Grand Lodge ; or the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or officer presiding, may appoint a Secretary *pro tem*.

SEC. 9. The Grand Secretary shall keep books, in which shall be opened a regular account against the Grand Treasurer, charging him with all moneys paid over to him, and crediting him with all warrants drawn on him ; a full report on which he shall make at every Grand annual communication. He shall also keep regular accounts with each subordinate Lodge, charging them with all dues, etc., and crediting them with all moneys received ; which books shall at all times be open to the inspection of the committee on Accounts. He shall receive all moneys due the Grand Lodge, and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same. He shall publish in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, a list of all the members of the subordinate Lodges, agreeably to their returns, together with all initiations, passings, and raisings ; suspensions for unmasonic conduct, for a longer period than twelve months ; expulsions and deaths. He shall also publish the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, as reported by the committee on Accounts.

SEC. 10. The Grand Secretary shall receive for his services, to be paid at every Grand annual communication out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, the sum of fifty dollars—also, the sum of five dollars for each charter or dispensation issued by order of the Grand Lodge, or the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to be paid for by the Lodge to which the dispensation or charter shall be issued. Provided, that no additional charge shall be made for the charter, when the dispensation to the same Lodge has been paid for. The Grand Secretary shall be entitled also, to receive the following fees for his services, to be paid by the parties employing him :

For copying from the records, files, or proceedings of the Grand Lodge, or any instrument of writing whatever (except receipts and warrants on the Treasurer), ten cents for every one hundred words.

Fifty cents for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any instrument of writing, except to dispensations or charters—and

Two dollars for every diploma.

Provided, the Grand Secretary shall not be entitled to any fee for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any deed, instrument, or paper for the use of the Grand Lodge : such as particular summonses, copies for the subordinate Lodges, or for foreign Grand Lodges, etc.

SEC. 11. The Grand Treasurer shall receive all moneys due the Grand Lodge from the hands of the Grand Secretary, giving him a receipt for the same : and shall pay none out, except upon a warrant of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, by order of the Grand Lodge. He shall keep a regular account of all moneys received, or paid out by him ; and on the first day of each Grand annual communication, he shall lay a statement of his accounts before the Grand Lodge. He shall be entitled to receive, as a compensation for his services, two per centum on all money received and paid out by him.

ARTICLE VIII.

SECTION 1. Each and every association of Masons, that may hereafter obtain from the Grand Lodge a charter, or from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, in the recess of the Grand Lodge, a dispensation to authorize them to work as a regular Lodge of Freemasons, shall, before receiving the same, pay to the Grand Secretary the sum of fifty-five dollars. Fifty dollars of which to go into the funds of the Grand Lodge, and five dollars as a fee to the Grand Secretary. Provided, that when the Grand Secretary has received a fee for issuing a dispensation, he shall not be entitled to charge a fee also, for the charter to the same subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 2. Any Lodge having worked under dispensation, and obtained from the Grand Lodge a charter, shall have their officers regularly installed, and then proceed to work, and be entitled to all the privileges of a chartered Lodge.

SEC. 3. No Lodge, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, shall confer the first three degrees of Masonry for a less sum than twenty dollars ; and no degree shall be conferred unless the fee for the same shall be paid to the Secretary. Provided, that any subordinate Lodge may confer the degrees upon, or admit to membership, any minister of the Gospel free of fees or dues.

SEC. 4. When a charter, held under this Grand Lodge, shall be surrendered or forfeited, the whole of the property, jewels, regalia, books, and papers, shall belong to, and be invested in the Grand Lodge, and be surrendered to any officer or agent, properly appointed to receive the same.

SEC. 5. Every member of the Grand Lodge, as also every member of the subordinate Lodges, shall pay due submission and obedience to their respective superior officers.

SEC. 6. Each subordinate Lodge shall elect its officers at their regular meetings, last preceding the anniversary of St. John, the Evangelist, or as soon thereafter as may be ; who shall continue in office one year, or until their successors are duly elected and installed ; and any officer may be reelected as often as the Lodge may determine.

SEC. 7. No petition for initiation or membership shall be withdrawn, after having been referred to a committee for inquiry. Nor can a candidate, who has been once rejected, be knowingly received by any other Lodge under this jurisdiction, without the consent of the Lodge which rejected him.

SEC. 8. The vote to advance a brother to any degree of Masonry, should be as unanimous as the vote which admits him as a member.

SEC. 9. When the deformity of a candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of the Craft, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of Freemasonry.

ARTICLE IX.

SECTION 1. The general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members, is, that such admission must be sanctioned by entire unanimity ; and so sacred does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that it is competent for a minority, or any member of the Lodge, prior to the performance of the final ceremony of initiation, to arrest the candidate, for good cause shown.

SEC. 2. Grand Lodge jurisdiction should be maintained inviolate. In no instance has a subordinate Lodge a right to receive a candidate from another State, where a Grand Lodge has been regularly established, and in the exercise of its authority. And the subordinate Lodges should pay attention to their jurisdiction, which is an equal distance between each other ; and in no case receive a candidate from the jurisdiction of another subordinate Lodge, without a proper explanation, and the consent of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides.

ARTICLE X.

SECTION 1. If a Mason be guilty of, or charged with any unmasonic conduct, the charges should be inquired into by the Lodge of which such Mason is a member, or in whose jurisdiction such Mason resides ; and, if need be, regular proceedings may be instituted against such offending Mason, who may be suspended or expelled ; subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. When a subordinate Lodge shall deal with, or proceed against a brother Mason, for unmasonic conduct, or for any offense derogatory to the masonic character, all the charges and specifications shall be made in writing, and filed with the Secretary of the Lodge, whose duty it shall be to cause a copy thereof, duly made out, to be delivered to the accused, with reasonable notice of the time for taking testimony, as well for the defense of the accused, as to support the charges and specifications. And the accused may also have leave to take testimony, at such other reasonable times and places as he may designate, giving proper notice to the Worshipful Master, or presiding officer of the Lodge, or its Secretary ; and, in all cases, the whole of the testimony proper to be written, shall be taken in writing, and carefully preserved by the Secretary of the Lodge, or the committee appointed to conduct the examination ; and in all cases of an appeal to the Grand Lodge, from the decision of a subordinate Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to make out and forward to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, a full and complete transcript of the records and proceedings had in such case, embracing the charges and specifications, and the testimony taken in the case, with a note, on the records, of the names of the witnesses.

SEC. 3. It shall be the privilege of any brother Mason, feeling himself aggrieved by the decision of any subordinate Lodge, to take an appeal to the next Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge, where full cognizance shall be entertained of all matter relating thereto ; and, upon the whole evidence, such order or division shall be pronounced as shall seem right and consistent with justice and Masonic usage. To effect which appeal, notice to the Lodge where the proceedings were instituted and decided, shall be deemed sufficient ; and notice of such appeal, with the transcript of the proceedings, shall be lodged with the Grand Secretary as soon as may be ; which should be at least one month before the Grand annual communication, if practicable.

SEC. 4. Revising or abrogating the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother Mason, shall not (although it restores him to all the privileges of Masonry), restore him to membership in the Lodge from which he was suspended, or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

SEC. 5. An expulsion or suspension of a Mason from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, who is a member of a Blue Lodge, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from a Blue Lodge.

SEC. 6. The Secretaries of the several subordinate Lodges are required to report immediately to the Grand Secretary, the name of every person rejected, suspended, or expelled, who shall, on receipt of such notice, communicate the same to each subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XI.

SECTION 1. It requires the same unanimous vote to remove an order expelling or suspending a member of a Lodge from the privileges of Masonry, that is requisite for the admission of a petitioner for membership.

SEC. 2. The bare removal of a member of a subordinate Lodge into another jurisdiction, is not sufficient cause to forfeit his membership in the Lodge of which he was a member ; nor does it authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of members of such Lodge.

SEC. 3. It is the duty of each subordinate Lodge to communicate to the Grand Secretary, from time to time, all such information, or matters concerning the Craft, as may be deemed for the good of Masonry generally ; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to correspond with the subordinate Lodges, whenever the Most Worshipful Grand Master shall think the good of the Craft requires it.

ARTICLE XII.

SECTION 1. No charter or dispensation constituting a new Lodge, can be granted to a less number than seven Master Masons ; nor unless the petition be recommended by the Lodge nearest the residence of the petitioners.

SEC. 2. Every new Lodge established, must transmit to the Grand Lodge, at its next annual communication, a copy of its by-laws and proceedings, for examination, to see that they contain nothing contrary to the constitution of the Grand Lodge, or the ancient rules and regulations of Freemasonry. And, in like manner, all amendments made by subordinate Lodges, to their by-laws, must be transmitted to the Grand Lodge for examination. And all Lodges working under a dispensation, must return to the Grand Lodge their dispensation, with their by-laws, and transcript of their proceedings, previously to obtaining a charter.

SEC. 3. None but Master Masons are recognized as members of a Lodge ; and all business must be transacted in a Lodge opened in the third degree, except that which relates especially to the conferring and lecturing in the subordinate degrees.

SEC. 4. Every Lodge may exercise all the rights of discipline over Masons, not members of any Lodge, who reside in the vicinity of such Lodge, so far as may relate to the masonic conduct of such Masons, while resident therein.

ARTICLE XIII.

SECTION 1. No amendment of this constitution shall be made, unless the same shall be moved and seconded ; and then shall lie over for one entire vacation of the Grand Lodge.

"We, the undersigned, a committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, to arrange and prepare the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, do certify that the foregoing is a true and faithful transcript of the constitution, as adopted at the last Grand annual communication.

"THOMAS BROWN,
"JOHN P. DUVAL,
"JOHN B. TAYLOR, } Committee."

FORMS PRESCRIBED BY THE GRAND SECRETARY.

[No. 1.]

Form of a Return to the Grand Lodge.

ANNUAL RETURN to the MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA, of the officers and members of Lodge, No. commencing on the and ending on the showing the dates of membership, initiations, passings, and raisings, with the names of those rejected, suspended, expelled, reinstated, withdrawn, and dead, since the last return.

No.	Names.	Grade.	Date of Membership.	Initia'n.	Passing.	Raising.	Dues.	Remarks.
1.	A. B.	W. Master.	Prior to 27th Dec. last.	"	"	"	\$1 00	
2.	C. D.	S. Warden.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	
3.	E. F.	J. Warden.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	
4.	G. H.	Secretary.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	
5.	I. K.	Treasurer.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	Withdrawn, March 10.
6.	L. M.	S. Deacon.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	Suspended, April 1.
7.	N. O.	J. Deacon.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	Expelled, February 10.
8.	P. Q.	Tyler.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	
9.	R. S.	P. Master.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	Died, June 10.
10.	T. U.	M. Mason.	" " "	"	"	"	1 00	Reinstated, March 1.
11.	V. W.	" "	March 10th.	"	"	"	1 00	
12.	X. Y.	" "	June 1st.	April 1.	May 1.	June 1.	2 00	
13.	A. C.	F. Craft.		May 1.	June 1.		1 00	
14.	B. D.	E. Appren.		June 1.			1 00	

Dues to the Grand Lodge..... \$15 00

RECAPITULATION.—12 Master Masons, \$1 00 each..... \$12 00
3 Initiations, \$1 00 each..... 3 00—\$15 00

REJECTED : S—— T—— (Give his age and description). SUSPENDED : L—— M—— (State the length of time for which he is suspended, and the cause). EXPELLED : N—— O—— (State the cause and give the description). DIED : R—— S—— (Give his age, station, or masonic grade).

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR THE ENSUING YEAR : C—— D——, Worshipful Master ; E—— F——, Senior Warden ; T—— U——, Junior Warden ; G—— H——, Secretary ; J—— K——, Treasurer.

The regular meetings of this Lodge are held at their lodge-room, in the _____ on the _____ in each month, and on the anniversaries of St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist. The fee for initiation in this Lodge is _____ dollars; for passing, _____ dollars; and for raising, _____ dollars.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and perfect return of all the matters and things required to be reported annually, by the regulations of the Grand Lodge.

{ SEAL }

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the Lodge to be affixed, this day of _____ A. L.

A—— B——, *Master*.

ATTEST : G—— H——, *Secretary*.

NOTES.

By the constitution, the Masonic year commences on the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. Returns should, therefore, conform thereto; beginning on the 27th day of December, to the 27th day of the next December.

It is a rule of the Grand Lodge, that the subordinate Lodges shall pay one dollar for each Master Mason, who has been a member of the Lodge at any time during the current year, without regarding the fraction of time, and one dollar for every initiation.

By a provision of the constitution, no member of a subordinate Lodge can be suspended, or expelled, for non-payment of dues; but may be stricken from the roll of members until his dues are paid, which must be noted in the returns.

[No. 2.]

Form of Credentials for a Representative.

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME—GREETING :

Know ye, that the Master and members of _____ Lodge, No. _____, reposing special trust and confidence in the fidelity, skill, and Masonic abilities of our worthy brother _____ a member of our said Lodge, do hereby constitute and appoint him our representative in the Grand Lodge of Florida, at its ensuing annual communication, to be held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on the second Monday of January next; empowering him to act in our behalf, and hereby ratifying and confirming whatever he may do in said capacity.

In testimony whereof, we have caused the Worshipful Master of our said Lodge to set his hand, and the Secretary to attest, and affix our seal hereto.

{ SEAL }

Done at _____ the _____ day of _____ A. L.
A—— B——, *Master*.
ATTEST : G—— H——, *Secretary*.

[No. 3.]

Form of Proxy for the Master or Wardens.

I, A—— B—— (Master, or Senior Warden, or Junior Warden, as the case may be), Lodge, No. do hereby appoint Brother C—— D——, a member of Lodge, No. my proxy in the Grand Lodge of Florida, at its ensuing annual communication, to be held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on the 2nd Monday of January next ; empowering him to act in my behalf, and hereby ratifying and confirming whatsoever he may do in said capacity.

Given under my hand, at the day
 of A. L.
 C—— D——, of Lodge, No.

ATTEST : G—— H——, *Secretary.*

[No. 4.]

Form of a Petition for Initiation.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER, WARDENS, AND BRETHREN OF LODGE, No.

I, A—— B—— of (*name his residence and occupation*) of lawful age, declare, upon my honor, that, uninfluenced by unworthy motives, I freely and voluntarily offer myself a candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry ; being prompted by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to mankind.

A—— B——.

We, the undersigned, Master Masons and members of Lodge, No. beg leave to recommend Mr. A—— B—— to be made a Mason in this Lodge, when it shall be its pleasure to receive him. We are induced to make this recommendation from undoubted information of his character, and a conviction that he is a virtuous and moral man, who will cheerfully conform to the rules of the Order, and make a useful and honorable member of the Fraternity.

J—— K——, }
 N—— O——, } *Vouchers.*

Deposit, \$ received.

G—— H——, *Secretary.*

[No. 5.]

Form of a Petition for Charter (or Dispensation, as the case may be)
to constitute a new Lodge.*

TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE (OR MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER) OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA :

We, the undersigned Master Masons, of good standing, having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are willing and anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry ; and for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, us thereunto moving, have agreed to form a new Lodge, to be named Lodge, No. . We, therefore, do pray the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge (or Most Worshipful Grand Master) to grant us a charter (or dispensation), empowering us to assemble as a regular Lodge, according to the original landmarks and usages of the Craft, and the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida. We have nominated and recommend A—— B—— to be our first Worshipful Master ; C—— D—— to be our first Senior Warden ; and E—— F—— to be our first Junior Warden. The prayer of this petition being granted, we do hereby promise strict conformity to every regular edict of the Grand Master, and to the constitution, laws, and regulations of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

NOTE.—[Must be signed by at least seven Master Masons, and recommended by the nearest Lodge, in the following form:]

We, the Master and Wardens of Lodge, No. are fully satisfied with the proposed erection of a new Lodge, by our brethren in (*here name the place where the Lodge is to be located*), and we cheerfully recommend them to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge (or Grand Master) as good Masons, who have done honor to the Craft.

{ SEAL } Done in open Lodge, at _____ on the _____ day
 of _____ A. L.
 C — D —, *Master.*
 E — F —, *Senior Warden.*
 G — H —, *Junior Warden.*

ATTEST : J—— K——, *Secretary.*

* By the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, application must be made to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge for a dispensation; but to the Grand Lodge, when in session, for a charter.

[No. 6.]

Form of Opening and Closing a Lodge.

OPENING.

At a regular (or called, as the case may be) meeting of Lodge No. ,
 at their Lodge room, in on the day of A. L.
 at o'clock.

Present :

A — B —, Worshipful Master.

C — D —, Senior Warden.

E — F —, Junior Warden.

G — H —, Secretary.

J — K —, Treasurer.

L — M —, Senior Deacon.

N — O —, Junior Deacon.

P — Q —, Tyler.

R — S —, Past Master ; T — U —, Master Mason.

V — W —, Visiting Brother (*describe the name and number of his Lodge*).

The Lodge was opened in DUE and ANCIENT FORM, in the third degree of Masonry (*or first or second degree.*)

CLOSING.

There appearing no further business before the Lodge, in this degree, it was closed in DUE FORM, in peace and harmony.

(*Or if called off*)—

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until (*here state the time.*)

(*And when called on*)—

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor, in the third degree of Masonry (*or the degree which stands open*).

Present, &c.

NOTE.—[The word "communication," is never used in regard to *meetings* of subordinate Lodges. It only applies to convocations of the Grand Lodge.]

When the Most Worshipful Grand Master is presiding, the Grand Lodge is opened in AMPLE FORM ; when the Deputy Grand Master presides, it is opened in DUE FORM ; and when any other officer presides, it is opened only in form.

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 10, 1848.

JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, *Grand Master.*

THE annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Florida, was held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the tenth day of January, A. L. 5848, A. D. 1848.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN CHAIN, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem.*

R. W. GEORGE W. MACRAE, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem.*

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.

W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem.*

W. J. COSTIN, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem.*

Brother F. WIENER, Grand Tyler.

M. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Past Grand Master, and sundry members, representatives, and brethren.

The Grand Secretary announced that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented.

Whereupon, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, according to ancient usage, and with prayer.

Representatives and proxies from the following Lodges appeared and handed in their credentials :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—C. E. Dyke, Worshipful Master ; I. W. Bowen, Senior Warden ; J. A. Edmondson, Junior Warden ; H. T. Blocker, Representative.

From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Samuel B. Stephens, Worshipful Master ; P. W. White, Senior Warden ; A. J. Rogers, Representative.

From Hiram Lodge, No. 5—T. J. Heir, Representative.

From Madison Lodge, No. 11—J. H. Bryan, Representative.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—W. A. Forward, Senior Warden ; I. H. Bronson, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

From Escambia Lodge, No. 15—John Chain, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

From Santa Rosa Lodge, U. D., No. 16—John Chain, Worshipful Master ; Joseph B. Lancaster, Proxy for Senior Warden.

On motion of Brother Brown, a charter was granted to Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, and the officers were installed in solemn ancient form, by the Most Worshipful Grand Master presiding.

On motion of Brother Chain, all Master Masons, in good standing, were invited to attend the meetings of this Grand Lodge.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until seven o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, January 10, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, and the Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden, as Grand Master.

M. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, P. G. M., as Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN CHAIN, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. J. H. BRYAN, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.

W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. J. A. EDMONDSON, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother F. WIENKER, Grand Tyler.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Master, and representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and sundry members, representatives, and visitors.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, presiding, was pleased to appoint the following standing committees, viz :

On Accounts—Brothers HEIR, GRAHAM, and SIBLEY.

On Ways and Means—Brothers LANCASTER, MACRAE, and BRYAN.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers CHAIN, BLOCKER, and WHITE.

On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers MACRAE, DYKE, and BOWEN.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers DUVAL, BROWN, J. B. TAYLOR, and BERTHELOT.

On Returns—Brothers WHITE, SIBLEY, and BERTHELOT.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers SHINE, HEIR, and JOHN B. TAYLOR.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers CHAIN, MACRAE, and JOHNSON.

On Education—Brothers BROWN, DYKE, and LANCASTER.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, with his account and vouchers, which were received and read :

"The Grand Secretary has the honor to report, that since the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, he has received the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the District of Columbia,

Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Vermont, Iowa, Massachusetts, and Ohio ; with sundry printed resolutions, circulars, and manuscript letters, all of which have been handed over to the standing committee on Foreign Correspondence, and will be fully reported upon. But no proceedings from the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Texas, have been received, since the last communication. By letters from the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, information has been received, that the proceedings of that Grand Lodge were regularly forwarded, but they have never come to hand ; and it is probable that like miscarriages may have occurred in regard to the proceedings of the other Grand Lodges.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge have been forwarded to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and to the editors of the *Freemason's Magazine*, Boston ; the *Masonic Mirror*, Covington, Kentucky ; the *American Masonic Register*, Albany, New York ; and the *Masonic Expositor*, Griffin, Georgia ; and to all the Grand Officers, and subordinate Lodges in this State.

"The Grand Secretary has received a communication from the Worshipful Master of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, complaining of Escambia Lodge, No. 15, for initiating, passing, and raising a citizen from the city of Apalachicola, within the jurisdiction of Franklin Lodge, without any authority from that Lodge, or explanation in regard thereof, which I herewith submit, with this report, for the action of the Grand Lodge.

"The Grand Secretary has the honor further to report, that in obedience to instructions from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, he issued credentials to the R. W. Harry R. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and to R. W. Thomas Hayward, Past Deputy Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, as Representative of this Grand Lodge in the General Masonic Convention which assembled at Baltimore in September last ; and he has now the pleasure to submit to the consideration of this Grand Lodge, the report of R. W. Brother Hayward, with a copy of the proceedings of that convention.

"The Grand Secretary has the honor to report his accounts and vouchers, for moneys received and paid by him, since the last communication, in obedience to an order of the Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*"

REPORT OF THE DELEGATE TO THE GENERAL MASONIC CONVENTION AT BALTIMORE.

"The undersigned, one of the delegates appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to represent the Grand Lodge of Florida in the General Masonic Convention which met at Baltimore in September last, begs leave to report, that he attended that convention, and participated in its deliberations, and now has the honor to lay before

the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, a copy of its proceedings, and the constitution adopted for the institution of a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States, which will afford all the information that your delegate is able to furnish, and which, he hopes, will receive the approbation of this Grand Lodge, as well as that of a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and will accomplish the objects and wishes of its warmest supporters.

"The undersigned tenders to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, his sincere acknowledgements for the honor conferred upon him, in his appointment as delegate, the duties of which he endeavored to discharge with fidelity.

"With fraternal respect and consideration,

"THOMAS HAYWARD."

On motion of Brother Bronson, so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to the complaint of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, was referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

So much as relates to the proceedings of the General Masonic Convention at Baltimore, to the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

And so much as relates to the Grand Secretary's account, to the committee on Accounts.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. GEORGE F. BALTZELL, Grand Senior Warden, as Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN CHAIN, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.

R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.

W. J. B. TAYLOR, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. J. P. DUVAL, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother F. WIENKER, Grand Tyler.

And sundry members, representatives, and visitors.

The Representatives from Harmony Lodge, No. 3, appeared, made returns, &c., viz. : Wade Keys, Representative ; George F. Baltzell, Senior Warden.

The committee on Unfinished Business reported, that it does not appear that there is any unfinished business requiring their attention at the present session of the Grand Lodge.

Brother John Costen, representative from Dade Lodge, No. 14, appeared, made returns, &c., and took his seat.

The committee on Returns reported that they had examined the returns and credentials from the following Lodges, viz. : From Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Washington Lodge, No. 2 ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; Hiram Lodge, No. 5 ; Franklin Lodge, No. 6 ; Madison Lodge, No. 11 ; St. John's Lodge, No. 12 ; Dade Lodge, No. 14 ; Escambia Lodge, No.

15 ; and Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16 ; which they find correct and in proper form, and evidence that the Grand Secretary has received full payment of dues for the same.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until three o'clock this afternoon.

THREE o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to the General Masonic Convention at Baltimore, made the following report :

" That they have examined the constitution of a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States, and highly approve its provisions, as well guarded, and calculated to secure an equality of rights to the several Grand Lodges, and submit the following resolutions :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Florida do hereby adopt the constitution framed by the General Masonic Convention, which assembled at Baltimore on the 23rd day of September last, to constitute a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States.

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge be instructed to communicate this acceptance, as required by the second Section of the fourth Article of said constitution.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman*."

Which was read and adopted.

M. W. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master, and representative from the Grand Lodge of Texas, announced to the Grand Lodge that he considered it his duty; as a representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, near this Grand Lodge, to enter the protest of the Grand Lodge of Texas against the scheme of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, which he was instructed to do, and which he took occasion then to do, in discharge of his representative duty, before the question was taken on the adoption of the resolutions which he had just reported from the committee to whom that subject had been referred.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 12, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft met, and the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

Brother Heir offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary cause to be half bound, for preservation, the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from its organization, to include the proceedings of the present communication ; with the proceedings of the Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, to be bound in suitable and convenient volumes."

Brother Chain, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the complaint of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, made the following report :

"The committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the complaint of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, against the action of Escambia Lodge, No. 15, in the initiation of a citizen from her jurisdiction, have had the subject under consideration, but from a deficiency of testimony to enable your committee to act understandingly on the subject, and at the same time to do justice to all parties, recommend that the whole matter be postponed until the next annual communication, when the parties be notified to come up, prepared to establish or resist the allegations, if the same be not explained and settled before, which the committee recommend to both parties to do in an amicable manner."

Which was read and adopted.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until half-past three o'clock this afternoon.

WEDNESDAY, half-past three o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. W. Thomas Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master, from the standing committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was read by its several articles, considered and adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have, since the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, received and examined printed reports of proceedings from the following Grand Lodges in the United States, viz. :

"From the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine, begun and held in the city of Portland, May 5, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire, begun and held in the city of Concord, June 8, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, begun and held in the city of Hartford, May 12, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, held in the city of New York, from 1st September, 1846, to 3rd June, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania, begun and held in the city of Philadelphia, December 7, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Maryland, held in the city of Baltimore, from 26th November, 1846, to 20th May, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, held in the city of Washington, from 4th November, 1845, to 21st January, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, begun and held in the city of Detroit, January 13, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana, begun and held in the city of Indianapolis, May 24, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, begun and held in the city of Quincy, October 4, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the

Territory of Wisconsin, begun and held in the city of Madison, January 13th, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Missouri, begun and held in the city of St. Louis, October 11, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky, begun and held in the city of Lexington, August 30, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Tennessee, begun and held in the city of Nashville, October 4, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Virginia, begun and held in the city of Richmond, December 14, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina, begun and held in the city of Raleigh, December 7, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of South Carolina, held in the city of Charleston, from 19th January to 28th December, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia, begun and held in the city of Macon, October 27, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama, begun and held in the city of Tuscaloosa, December 7, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, begun and held in the city of Natchez, February 15, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, begun and held in the city of New Orleans, January 23, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Arkansas, begun and held in the city of Little Rock, November 2, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont, begun and held in the city of Burlington, on the second Wednesday of January, 1846. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Iowa, begun and held in the city of Iowa on the 1st day of June, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, begun and held in the town of Zanesville, October 19, 1847. From the Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts, from September, 1846, to September, 1847, inclusive.

"Together with a number of other communications, printed circulars, resolutions and manuscript letters, amongst which, are a report and preamble, and series of resolutions of a special committee of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, approved by it in two consecutive sittings, dated April 21, and May 14, 1847; and a circular letter of the committee, dated May 30, 1847, 'relative to certain acts and doings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, tending to destroy the order and harmony of Freemasonry in the State of Louisiana, by an improper interference with its concerns,' and a preamble and resolutions, reported by the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and adopted by it at its quarterly meeting, September 7, 1847, relating to the same subject.

"A circular from R. W. R. R. Boyd, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, dated February 18, 1847, 'reminding this Grand Lodge of the existence of several clandestine Lodges in the city and State of New York.'

"A circular from R. W. Albert G. Mackey, M.D., Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, dated, Grand East of Charleston, April 12, 1847, transmitting a preamble and resolutions, adopted by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, suspending 'the Worshipful

Master, Wardens, and certain members, being a majority of Walhalla Lodge, No. 66, for refusing to submit to the mandate of the Grand Lodge, directing the restoration of F. Schneider and J. C. Blhooome to membership in said Lodge.'

"The proceedings of a convention to form a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, which convened in the city of Baltimore on the 23rd day of September last.

"A circular from the R. W. A. S. Ruthvin, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, dated, Houston, July 31, 1847, informing this Grand Lodge of the 'serious and severe loss' by the Grand Lodge of Texas, 'by the burning of their archives by fire at the city of Austin.' We are also informed, by a subsequent letter from the same source, that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, at its last annual communication, were regularly mailed to the address of our Grand Secretary, but we regret to learn that they have not been received, which deprives this Grand Lodge of any information in regard to the acts and doings of our sister Grand Lodge of Texas, whose proceedings we have always regarded with interest. We also fear that the proceedings of other Grand Lodges, with whom we are in correspondence, which have not been received, may have, in like manner, miscarried.

"Your committee cannot refrain from an expression of their unfeigned gratitude to the Supreme Architect of the Universe, for the assurance of His overruling Providence and protection, in the prosperity of Freemasonry in every portion of this wide-spread confederation. They have read the very large number of communications which have been received by the Grand Secretary, within the last twelve months, with pleasure and profit; indeed they have found in them a feast for the mind, rich with Masonic wisdom and sound instruction, of which they wish every brother under this jurisdiction could partake. But it would be impossible for your committee to furnish anything that would give an adequate idea of such various, profound, and eloquent productions, in the form of a Grand Lodge Report.

"Your committee, however, propose to review some of the most important questions which have been brought forward and discussed by the committees, and acted upon by the Grand Lodges in the last two or three years; and although a diversity of opinion still exists on many of these important questions of ancient Masonic usage, yet it must be cheering to the heart of every true brother of the Craft, to perceive that the agitation of such subjects has only had a tendency the more clearly to define and establish the ancient landmarks of the Order, and to brighten the great chain of brotherhood which encompasses the whole earth.

"It has become a custom with many of the Grand Lodges in the United States, for the Grand Master, at the opening of the Grand Lodge, to read an address, embracing the most important subjects for consideration, and full of useful knowledge and instruction, and some of them

are beautiful specimens of Masonic eloquence. We think we cannot more appropriately introduce this report, than by making a short extract from the address of M. W. Edmund Dellahenty, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, delivered at the annual communication in October, 1846, which has been received since our last annual communication. He says : 'Daily are we receiving intelligence from our brethren in our own country, and in distant lands, that should make every Mason's heart thrill with joy ! Amid the changes and reverses of fortune to which everything of human origin has been subjected, Masonry has known no change but improvement. The black cloud that once hung upon our sky has faded away, and to the retiring gloom has succeeded noonday brightness. The lightning's flash has gone out in the heavens, the thunder's roar has died away in the distance, and all is now calm and tranquil as the dreams of an infant slumbering upon its mother's bosom. Like a rock upon the sea shore, Masonry stands frowning defiance on the angry waves that have dashed and died at its base.

" ' Let us here pause for a moment, as we ask ourselves the question : What report do the moments of the Masonic year just now closed bear to Heaven ? Do they go as accusing spirits against us, or as able advocates, to plead with dumb lips, yet eloquent silence, our cause in the Court above ? Have we, as Masons and as men, availed ourselves of the means afforded by the prosperity of our Order, to bless mankind, and make wiser, better, and happier, those of our day and generation ? Are we alive to a sense of the new duties and responsibilities created by our increased facilities to effect good and prevent evil ? And as we ask ourselves these questions, let us remember, the wise waste not their time in idle regrets about that which is irrecoverable, but seek atonement for the past, in hearty amendment.

" ' Whatever objection the weakness of the head, or wickedness of the heart may have raised to our venerable and venerated institution, its antiquity may justly challenge the wonder and admiration of all. It counts its age not by years, but by centuries, tens and scores of centuries, and these are but links in the chain of its existence. Guided by the lamp of history, we pursue back the links of that chain, till years rolling on years, and age succeeding age, are piled behind us in awful grandeur ; and when the light of history grows dim, we take up tradition, and travel along down the distant past, where tradition itself dies out, and the inquirer is lost amid the mazes of speculation and conjecture. The Papacy boasts of its antiquity ; but Masonry existed in manly maturity, when it is claimed the Apostolic mantle fell from St. Peter upon his successor. And now when Papacy has grown old, has stretched her arms over the world, and rules the religious destiny of above one hundred and fifty millions of human beings, Masonry is yet alive. There is no human institution of whose birth it was not a living witness. Within its day empires have risen, flourished, passed

away, and been forgotten. And still it exists, unshorn of its pristine glory, with all the freshness of youth, the vigor of manhood, and venerable majesty of old age, bearing no symptoms of decay, no sign of approaching dissolution. The Ark in which our all as Masons is embarked, though once the sport of the elemental war, as it dashed with lightning speed overseas churned to froth by the whirlwind's rage, has outlived the tempest, and now, with masts unshattered, with canvas untorn, bending under full sail, she nears the distant haven. Ride on, thou gallant bark, ride on ! proudly leaping from wave to wave, as if in mockery of the billows' rage, and tempest's fury ! thy polar star is truth, the hand that guides thee is divine ! The star of Masonry is in the ascendant. Never, since its origin, had its friends more reason to rejoice, or its enemies to mourn.'

"The committee design, in this report, to present to the consideration of the Grand Lodge, the various subjects that have been brought forward and examined by the Grand Lodges in the United States, within the last two or three years, and which appear to be yet undetermined—to exhibit a condensed view of the arguments, *pro* and *con*, as far as they have ability to perform the duty, and to produce proper authority, where it can be found, tending to settle and reconcile those subjects of disputation which are now disturbing the harmony of the Fraternity. Your committee are impelled to the performance of this duty by a conviction that there is really not as wide a difference of opinion on many of the questions under discussion, as the *strong language* resorted to in many instances would induce us to suppose ; and although 'we, as watchmen upon the walls, cannot say all is well,' from present appearances, yet are we disposed to cast in our mite to reconcile discordant opinions, upon subjects where no dissensions should exist, that truth might prevail, and 'brotherly love and charity abound.'

"Your committee cannot suppose that there can be found *enlightened Freemasons* in the round world who could differ essentially in regard to the established landmarks of the Order ; for it is admitted and 'acknowledged, that it is not in the power of any set of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry,' which consists of those 'universal laws, handed down by universal consent, from time immemorial, and which govern the Fraternity throughout the world. These are irrevocable, for they constitute a part of the ancient landmarks.'

"The subjects now agitating the Grand Lodge, may be divided into two classes :

"*First*—Such as regard the ancient landmarks of the Order, and such as time has rendered venerable and unalterable, 'for there are certain forms and regulations, which, although not constituting landmarks, are nevertheless so protected by the venerable claim of antiquity, that they should be guarded by every good Mason with religious care from alteration.'

"*And secondly*—Such as concern the local legislation and policy of the respective Grand and Subordinate Lodges, which may be altered and amended as wisdom and experience may dictate."

OF MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

"In relation to the physical and mental prerequisites of a candidate for the honors of Freemasonry, it was decided by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky several years ago, that, 'if the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being *instructed* in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, his admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our Institution.' At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in January, 1845, this subject was brought to the consideration of the Grand Lodge, in the address of the R. W. Harvy W. Walter, D. G. M. acting as Grand Master, in which he says: 'As the subject of the prerequisite physical and mental qualifications of candidates for initiation, has been agitated in one of our subordinate Lodges, I deem it my duty to call your attention to the subject, with a view to obtain from you such an expression of opinion as will prevent future difficulties of a similar character. Would the loss of either of the three senses, *feeling, seeing, or hearing*, bar a candidate from the degrees, or as in the case of the Lodge above alluded to, would the loss of *sight* prevent his initiation? I think, brethren, this question may be stripped of all difficulties, by reference to the character of our work as Masons. Originally, it was strictly operative, and more attention was paid to the physical, than mental condition of the candidate. In reference to this point, the old Constitutions provide that, "*every candidate for the mysteries of Masonry, shall be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered, at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs.*" The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has adopted a rule more congenial to the present spirit of Masonry. Such, I conceive, will also be the opinion of every intelligent Mason, who reflects upon the great change which has taken place in the character of our work within the last two centuries. Physical labor has been superseded by mental action, and the man who retains those external senses, and is possessed of a good mental capacity, but a weak and emaciated, or even maimed body, would now be considered an eligible candidate, whereas he would formerly have been rejected—in other words, Masonry now requires of its votaries more of mind, and less of flesh and form, than it originally did. I think brethren, that we may safely conclude that a *loss or partial deprivation of those physical organs, which minister alone to the action of the body, do not disqualify—but that the loss of those upon which the mind depends for its ideas of external objects certainly would.* We have then only to determine to which of these classes the eye, the ear, and the nerves belong, to settle this difficulty. I cannot conceive how

mind could be very sanative, deprived of all these, or how it could attain perfection with the loss of either of the first two. They are all its obedient slaves, and minister to it all the information upon which it depends for vigorous or healthy action. They are called by way of eminence the three *Masonic senses*, for reasons that will readily suggest themselves to the mind of every brother familiar with our work. Indeed, brethren, I cannot conceive how a person deprived of them, or either of them, would efficiently discharge the duties, or perform the labor required at his hands.' The foregoing from the Grand Master's Address was referred to a select committee, who reported that : 'Masonry originated in an age of the world comparatively rude and barbarous ; at a time when strength of body was more valued than vigor of intellect. It was instituted by an association of men, united together for the prosecution of physical labors. But even at this early period their ties and obligations were fraternal. This made them solicitous to exclude from the Fraternity all who were likely to become burdensome rather than useful, and consequently to require that initiates should be whole in body, as well as sound in mind. But the world has changed, and Masonry has changed. A subsistence is now more easily obtained by mental endowments than by physical perfection. This institution has now become speculative and moral. It has entirely lost its operative character. The reason for requiring bodily perfection in candidates has ceased to exist. To continue the regulation would be absurd. The Grand Lodges in the United States and in Europe have generally dispensed with it.' The Select Committee recommend the adoption of a resolution, similar to the one adopted by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and also

"Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges be recommended to increase their caution in regard to the admission of persons likely to become chargeable to the institution.

"Both of which resolutions were adopted by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Alabama adopted a similar resolution to the one adopted by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Mississippi, and the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida, at the annual communication in December, 1845, approve the decision of the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Mississippi, and Alabama, and say : 'We consider that the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is replete with good sense.' The Grand Lodge of Florida, Dec., 1846, adopted the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, as Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, in these words : 'When the deformity of a candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of the Craft, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of Freemasonry.' Thus stands the argument in favor of the proposition.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, in his annual address of 1845, says: 'I must call your serious attention to the deliberate decision made and published by two Grand Lodges in the United States, that it is not a necessary qualification for a candidate to be whole and perfect in body, as well as in mind, in order that he may be received as a brother. As plain a fundamental principal as words can express, has been here solemnly and deliberately set at naught, and with a mockery of pretended reasoning.' The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, in their report at the annual communication in November, 1845, say: 'In Alabama, the loss of a leg or an arm does not disqualify one from receiving the degrees of Masonry. Maryland admits that, by the ancient law, the objection would hold, and exclude such applicant; but rather dodges the question now, and intimates that they are not unanimously of the opinion that Alabama is right. We would rather our elder sister had spoken more to the point. Is it in the power of any man, or set of men, to make innovations upon the rules of the Order? We all know that it is not. This settles the matter. By the ancient law it could not be done. Changes cannot be made. If legless men can be admitted, why not admit women?'

"All the ancient authorities agree in this, that 'Every person desiring admission, must be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered, at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs as a man ought to be.' 'This is one of the oldest regulations of our ancient Craft. It arises from the original operative nature of our institutions—whatever objections some ultra-liberal brethren may make to the uncharitable nature of a law which excludes a virtuous man from our fellowship, because he has been unfortunate enough to lose a leg or an arm—we have no right to discuss the question. The regulation constitutes one of the many peculiarities that distinguish our society from all others—its existence continues to connect the present speculative, with the former operative character of the institution; it is an important part of our history; and is, in short, by universal consent, one of the landmarks of the Order. It can never, therefore, be changed.' 'The man who has planted his feet upon the immutable Square of Morality, and whose body is erect in the proud consciousness of Virtue, is indeed worthy of the dominion which has been given him over the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air; and the Mason remembering that "God hath made man upright," should constantly endeavor to preserve that upright posture of his body and his mind.'

"'Thou shalt not,' says the Jewish law, 'remove thy neighbor's landmarks, which they of olden time have set in thine inheritance;' hence those peculiar marks of distinction, by which we are separated from the profane world, and by which we are enabled to designate our inheritance, as the 'Sons of Light,' are called the landmarks of the Order. The universal language, and the universal Laws of Masonry, are land-

marks. To attempt to alter or remove these sacred landmarks, by which we examine and prove a brother's claims to share in our privileges, is one of the most heinous offenses that a Mason can commit.'

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, in his annual address of May, 1846, says: 'I feel it to be a duty to caution the brethren to be strict as to whom they admit among them, for if their character cannot bear the severest test of Masonic scrutiny, they should be rejected as unworthy of our fellowship. Let not any one who *has not* all the qualifications required by our constitution and regulations be admitted. *See that they are perfect men, in body and mind.*'

"Your committee find that about thirteen Grand Lodges in the United States, including our own, have, by resolutions or articles of their constitutions, adopted the rule as first laid down by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, that 'when the *deformity* of the candidate, is not such as to prevent him from being *instructed* in the mysteries of the Craft, the admission will not be an infringement of the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of Freemasonry.' This may be true, if properly construed. But your committee fear that it is opening a door to admit a dangerous innovation, and regret any attempt has ever been made to explain the *Ancient Charges*, the observance of which must at last remain a matter of consequence and judgment.

"*Resolved by the Grand Lodge of Florida, That the ninth Section of the eighth Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge shall not be so construed by the subordinate Lodges, as to authorize any innovation upon the ancient landmarks of the Order.*"

OF RELIGIOUS TESTS.

"The edict passed by the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes at Berlin, in the kingdom of Prussia, requiring certain religious tests as a prerequisite to initiation, and the prohibition of Jews, who have been regularly initiated, passed, and raised, and in good standing, from visiting Prussian Lodges, merely on account of their religious belief, and similar tests required by some of the Lodges of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, were well calculated to strike the minds of Freemasons in the United States with astonishment; particularly when it is considered that this decision is intended to operate against the descendants of a nation from whose traditions and records we derive the whole history of our Order. But what shall we say of similar innovations attempted to be introduced into the regulations of some of the Grand Lodges of the United States, where the free spirit of our institutions inculcate the largest liberty of conscience, both in regard to our religious as well as our political faith, to say nothing of the obligation binding upon every enlightened Freemason to regard as inviolable the ancient landmarks. The Grand Lodge of Tennessee has in its by-laws required that a candidate for initiation shall declare his *belief in a future state*

of rewards and punishments, and the Grand Lodges of Illinois and North Carolina have adopted the following resolution :

“Resolved, That a belief in the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is essential to the faithful fulfillment of the duties required by the Order of Masonry in all Christian countries, and that a denial of the same is in conflict with the principles of our institution, calling for reprobation.

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in recommending the adoption of the foregoing resolution, say : ‘The additional test required is a distinct avowal of a belief in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures. This, to our minds, appears not only proper, but essential to the purity and perpetuity of Masonry. We all know that almost the first thing that strikes our view, on entering a Masonic Hall, is the Holy Bible lying open upon the altar ; and we know equally well that it is the glory and boast of Masonry, that it is founded upon and supported by the Bible.’ We all know that Freemasons in all Christian countries, profess a belief in the Bible, and acknowledge it to be God’s best gift to man, and one of the great lights in Masonry. But do the Ancient Charges require a belief in the Bible as a prerequisite to admission ? And would not such a test be a palpable innovation ?

“If these innovations upon the ancient landmarks of the Order are tolerated in Christian countries, what will become of the boasted *universality* of Freemasonry ? But your committee are happy to say that they perceive a disposition, on the part of the institutions where these innovations have been attempted, to acknowledge that they have proceeded more from inadvertance than from any settled design to commit a breach upon the ancient landmarks, and that we may soon expect to see such tests abandoned by the Grand Lodges where they have been adopted.

“The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in his annual address at the annual communication in December, 1846, says : ‘I regret exceedingly to perceive that the Grand Lodge of Illinois still pertinaciously persists in imposing as a prerequisite to Masonic admission, an unwarrantable test, sanctioned by no authority or usage, but condemned almost universally. The most untiring watchfulness of all who venerate the Order of Freemasonry, and desire its perpetuity, is constantly required to save it from finally running into sectarianism. If innovations be not summarily checked, Masonry will soon lose its boasted universality of character, and become in its influences, exclusive and partial.’ And the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, at the annual communication in October, 1847, say : ‘These requirements are a direct violation of the ancient landmarks, and ought to be expunged. Should they become the standing rules of the Order, the transition is easy to other innovations—the requirement, for example, of a belief of some of the distinguishing traits of some predominant sect. Then, the institution, instead of being uni-

versal, as in its original formation it was intended to be, and now is, it would dwindle to a mere sectarian association.'

" 'Your committee, entertaining the opinion, that no religious test should be required, beyond that of a belief in the existence of a God, the Creator and Governor of the Universe—they recommend the repeal of the by-law of this Grand Lodge, which requires a candidate for initiation to declare his belief in a future state of rewards and punishments. It stands among our by-laws, but your committee have reason to believe that the declaration is seldom made or required. Your committee agree in opinion with the committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, that all such innovations narrow down the limits of the first Old Charge, to some few particular sects of professing Christians. One innovation leads to another, and your committee fear that unless this spirit be arrested, we shall, in a short time, be unable to tell what are, and what are not, the true principles and landmarks of the Order.' So that we may fondly hope that ere long, those tests will be expunged as innovations by all the Grand Lodges of the United States, and the ancient landmarks be regarded as unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and Persians were; and indeed we may hope, that even in Prussia and Germany, those objectionable edicts will be repealed. The committee of the Grand Lodge of New York say: 'The Grand Lodge of Hamburg furnishes information from Switzerland since the formation of the new Grand Lodge of Zurich, called Alpina, in which are united sixteen Lodges, recognizing exclusively, only the three St. John's degrees. At the quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, on the 26th of April, 1845, the Grand Junior Warden, reported on the transactions of the Grand Lodge of New York, to the 7th of June, 1844, which, said he, "contain much that is pleasing, and would be still more interesting to European Masons, were they better acquainted with all the localities. I must speak of the industry and regular activity of the Grand Lodge of New York, which so plainly shows itself, and which, without doubt, has the most salutary effect upon the subordinate Lodges. Wherever irregularity or confusion exists, the watchful eye of the Masonic tribunal takes notice of it, while at the same time, merit is also seen, to be noticed and rewarded. It appears that maintainance of the laws, and a zeal for benevolence, go hand in hand.' The Grand Junior Warden then refers to 'an affair which has attracted the attention of all Lodges on the Continent, and finds a warm support in America.' He then read a translation of our letter of protest, to the doctrines and practice of the Grand Lodge at Berlin, as published by us in 1844. This was followed by extracts of the proceedings of the Grand Stag Lodge, at Oldenburg, in relation to the separation of the Lodge Charles of the Rising Light, from the Grand Lodge of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, expressive of their strong opposition, and showing how foolish it would be to apply a principle to Masonry, which is neither suitable to its origin or nature, nor conforming to the

regulations of a Church, which is in dispute with itself, and from which Masonry ought to keep distant for its own safety.' We are also informed, that Brother Maximillian Towski, a Master Mason from New York, with five other brethren from other jurisdictions, had presented himself on the 19th of May, 1845, at a meeting of a Lodge under the Grand Lodge of Royal York of Friendship, at Berlin, with his Grand Lodge certificate, to be admitted as a visitor, and as a professor of the Jewish faith, and was informed that their constitution would not allow them to admit brethren of the Jewish faith. One of the Jewish brethren in company with our Brother Towski, addressed his complaint to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, as his Mother Grand Lodge, and it was resolved to bring the question before all the Grand Lodges of her correspondence, what they understand by Freemasonry.'

" 'We have pleasure in mentioning that the Grand Lodge of Frankfort has decided to adhere to the "Ancient Charges," as published by the Grand Lodge of England in 1723.' 'The Grand Lodge of Saxony has adopted, and is determined to adhere to "the Ancient Charges of 1723."

" 'We have received several letters, and a large packet of printed documents, in relation to the controversy between the Grand Lodge of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, and three of her subordinates, who refused to abandon their exclusive Christian tenets, on the decision of the Grand Lodge to return to the first principles of Masonry, and of the formation of a new Grand Lodge at Maintz, under the protection of the Grand Duke Ludwig, second of Hesse and by Rhine, by the name of the Grosse Loge des Free Maurerbunder Zur Fintrehet, by the three discontented Lodges. The Grand Protector confirmed the new Grand Lodge with the condition that she would not meddle with political or religious matters. But the constitution shows that none but professing Christians are *initiated*, although their Grand Secretary, Dr. Lykaw, assures us that brethren of other creeds, coming from recognized legal Lodges, will be admitted as visitors.'

"With the following extract, we will close this article :

" 'A Mason is obliged by his tenure, to obey the moral law, and if he rightly understand the art, he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious libertine. He, of all men, should best understand that God seeth not as man seeth ; for man looketh at the outward appearance, but God looketh to the heart. A Mason is, therefore, particularly bound never to act against the dictates of his conscience. Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believe in the glorious Architect of heaven and earth, and practice the sacred duties of morality. Masons unite with the virtuous of every persuasion in the firm and pleasing bond of fraternal love ; they are taught to view the errors of mankind with compassion, and to strive, by the purity of their own conduct, to demonstrate the superior excellence of the faith they may profess. Thus

Masonry is the centre of union between good men and true, and the happy means of conciliating friendship amongst those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance?

"The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution :

"Resolved, That a belief in God is the only religious test known to Freemasonry."

DOES EXPULSION FROM A ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OR ENCAMPMENT NECESSARILY
EXPUL FROM A BLUE LODGE ?

"This question has been agitated in nearly all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and some have decided for the proposition, whilst others have decided against it.

"The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, by a provision of its constitution, declares that 'An expulsion or suspension of a brother by a Royal Arch Chapter or Encampment of Knights Templar, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from the Lodge of which he is a member.' The committees of the Grand Lodges of Virginia and New York agree in the justice of this rule, and the committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida, say in their report of Foreign Correspondence, in December, 1846 : 'Your committee cannot forbear to express their satisfaction, that their report made to the Grand Lodge of Florida, upon this subject, at the last annual convocation, has been sustained by the two eminent Grand Lodges of New York and Virginia.' The committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, in their report in 1845, in reviewing that provision in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, say : 'They consider it *unjust and absurd*.' And the committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, in their report of November, 1845, on this subject, say : 'Your committee cannot let this pass, without entering their most solemn protest against the doctrine. To call it "*unjust and absurd*," as does the Maryland Grand Lodge, is going but half way. Of the Knights Templar we know nothing, never having received those degrees, but every Royal Arch Mason, who has any zeal for the institution, must feel that in the above section, ancient Freemasonry received a shock, that must force regularity and unity from the system. For illustration, we will say that when a member of a Lodge is expelled, it is done by Master Masons ; and will it be contented that the expelled member remains an apprentice and fellow ? The doctrine is not only in our judgment absurd, but with due deference we say it is wicked and abominable. A sentence of expulsion by a Royal Arch Chapter unreversed, destroys the Masonic existence of the expelled, and he stands attainted of treason to Masonic rule and brotherhood, no matter of what degree. Every Masonic body must be presumed to have properly done every act performed, while our Wisconsin friends seem to presume the reverse. With the Maryland Lodge, we hold 'it to be the duty of every Lodge to inform its

Grand Lodge regularly and promptly, of all suspensions, expulsions, and rejections made by it ; and of each Grand Lodge to each of her sisters, and her subordinates ; and for each subordinate to keep a record thereof. With each suspension, expulsion, or rejection, should be given a full description of the person and the cause. With this every Mason will have at hand accurate information, and be able to prevent imposition.'

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, in their report of May, 1847, say : 'The Florida committee manifest a great antipathy to the action of this Grand Lodge on the subject of expulsions from Royal Arch Chapters and Encampments. This subject was first noticed by your committee two years since ; and in the outset of their remarks on the subject, they disclaimed the intention to wound the feelings of others, in saying that the position assumed by some, they considered to be "*unjust and absurd.*" They did not mean anything harsh or unkind in using these terms, but found none that better expressed their views, and at the same time endeavored, by what they considered "argument" and *illustration*, to prove the justness of the *terms* as well as the doctrine. They tried to *argue both sides* of the subject ; and in their last report again noticed it, in consequence of the arguments of the Florida committee, who declined to argue the "*converse of the proposition.*" The brethren in Florida have no need to be modest. They possess at least enough "Masonic lore" to know right from wrong, and have shown themselves competent to correct their elder brethren in other matters. Your committee indulge the hope that this Grand Lodge also is open to conviction, and having "only gone half way," may "retrace her steps," if the Florida brethren will lay aside their modesty, and *argue* the "converse of the proposition," instead of sheltering themselves behind the opinion of "the two eminent Grand Lodges of New York and Virginia." These, as your committee believe, being just as competent to "entertain heresy," as their younger brethren in Florida. Age, if it brings experience, brings also, sometimes, dogmatical obstinacy of opinion. *Argument* is more likely to be obtained from the young than the old.'

"Your committee feel sensibly the compliment paid to 'their younger brethren in Florida' by the committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and assure them that they are reluctant to understand an 'argument' to sustain a proposition, which they find opposed by their more experienced brethren. They would rather listen and receive instruction, than advance opinions which might prove erroneous. Your committee are aware that they have committed errors by the hasty expressions of opinion in former reports, and that they may have attempted by '*argument,*' to support propositions which more mature reflection and examination have at least caused them to doubt the propriety of. *More light* is what every uninformed brother should be desirous of obtaining. And perhaps the greatest source of error, and of evil too, is

a 'dogmatical obstinacy' in adhering to opinions once declared, for consistency's sake, against conviction; and this want of frankness may be as often found amongst the *enlightened* as the *unenlightened*. Truth is what we are all in search of; and no true and upright Mason should suffer it to be obscured, by listening to the unsound arguments, or sophistical reasonings, which vanity, prejudice, or ignorance may tempt some to offer; or by refusing to acknowledge an error, when made sensible of it, through a false pride.

"Your committee believe, from all the ancient authorities and usages, and sound deductions therefrom, that expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter or an Encampment, does not operate as an expulsion from a Lodge of Symbolic Masons. Because a Master Mason cannot be expelled without the concurrence of the Grand Lodge to which he is subordinate; and if the rule contended for by the Grand Lodge of Maryland were established, it would follow of course that a Master Mason could be expelled from his Lodge without citation, charges, or specifications, and by a body, in that regard, foreign to his Lodge. Indeed that the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or even the Most Worshipful Grand Master of a Grand Lodge, could be expelled, without the knowledge of the body over which he might be presiding, and that, too, without the privilege of an appeal; and indeed a case in point has already occurred in one of our Grand Lodges.

"Your committee, with due deference to the committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, can see no force or argument in the case which they have adduced as an 'illustration.' The lower degrees of Entered Apprentices and Fellow Craft are subordinate to a Master's Lodge, and when a Master Mason is expelled by the proper authority of his Grand Lodge, he is disrobed of all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry. Nor can your committee see the application of the duties pointed out by the 'Maryland Lodge,' and which the committee of the Arkansas Grand Lodge 'hold' to be in point. With all respect, we think they go to establish the opposite doctrine. It is true that it is 'the duty of every Lodge to inform its Grand Lodge, etc.' But is it the *duty* of a Royal Arch Chapter, when they expel a member, to notify the Grand Lodges, and their subordinates Lodges, of such expulsion? We answer, No! It is known to Royal Arch Masons, that offenses may be committed against a Royal Arch Chapter, which would not be recognized as offenses in a Lodge of Symbolic Masons; and that a Royal Arch Mason might be expelled from a Royal Arch Chapter, without the fact or the cause being necessarily known to *all Master Masons*; whereas, a Master Mason could not be expelled from a Lodge, without the fact and the cause being necessarily known to all Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar; and this brings us to the consideration of the 'converse of the proposition.' Does an expulsion, by a Grand Lodge, necessarily expel from the Royal Arch Chapter and Encampment? We answer, we think it does! Because, 'it is the perfection

of Ancient Craft Masonry ;' and no one can be a Royal Arch Mason or a Knight Templar, without being a Master Mason ; and all proceedings of a Master's Lodge must necessarily be known to the higher degrees ; and as 'expulsion from a Lodge, deprives the party expelled, of all the rights and privileges that he ever enjoyed, not only as a member of the particular Lodge from which he has been ejected, but also of those which were inherent in him as member of the Fraternity at large,' and consequently he is unfit to fraternize with Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar, who are necessarily Master Masons. But we have high authority for these opinions, which we beg to extract from the *Lexicon of Freemasonry*:

"The only proper tribunal to impose this heavy punishment, is a Grand Lodge. A subordinate Lodge tries its delinquent member, and if guilty, declares him expelled. But the sentence is of no force until the Grand Lodge, under whose jurisdiction it is working, has confirmed it. One other question arises. Does expulsion from one of what is called the higher degrees of Masonry, such as a Chapter or an Encampment, affect the relations of the expelled party to Blue Masonry ? We answer unhesitatingly, it does not ! In this opinion we are supported by the best authority. The principle upon which our doctrine is founded is plain. A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for instance, is not, and cannot be recognized as a Masonic body, by a Lodge of Master Masons. "They hear them so to be, but they do not know them so to be" by any of the modes of recognition known to Masonry. The acts therefore of a Chapter, cannot be recognized by a Master Masons' Lodge, any more than the acts of a literary or charitable society, wholly unconnected with the Order. Again—by the present organization of Freemasonry, Grand Lodges are the Supreme Masonic tribunals. If, therefore, expulsion from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons involved expulsion from a Blue Lodge, the right of the Grand Lodge to hear and determine causes, and to regulate the internal concerns of the institution would be interfered with by another body beyond its control. But the converse of this proposition, does not hold good. Expulsion from a Blue Lodge involves expulsion from all the higher degrees. Because as they are composed of Blue Masons, the members could not of right, sit and hold communications on Masonic subjects with one who was an expelled Mason.'

"The 5th Section of the 10th Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, declares that, 'an expulsion or suspension of a Mason from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, who is a member of a Blue Lodge, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from a Blue Lodge.'

"The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution :

"Resolved, That Master Masons can be expelled from the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, only by the action of a Master Masons' Lodge."

THE RIGHT OF A SUBORDINATE LODGE TO TRY ITS MASTER.

"The National Convention, which assembled at Baltimore in May, 1843, adopted the following resolution :

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, a subordinate Lodge has not the right to try its Master, but that he is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone.

"The Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi brings this question, in his address, to the attention of his Grand Lodge. He says : 'Your attention is respectfully solicited to the consideration of a very momentous and important question of Masonic jurisprudence, which has been called forth by the action of one of our subordinate Lodges during the past year. It assumed and exercised the power of of expelling its own Master, who was also the Grand Senior Warden of this Grand Lodge. If the rule adopted by the triennial Convention at Baltimore be correct, the whole proceeding is absolutely null and void. The conformity of this rule with the old constitution of Masonry, and its almost universal approval by the Craft, have given to it the binding force and sanction of a law. I do not feel disposed to question either its wisdom or propriety. By it the Master of a Lodge is exempt from trial whilst he continues in office, so also is the Grand Master of a State, for he is by virtue of his office the Master of all the subordinate Lodges within his jurisdiction. Does not the same rule hold good as to all the officers of the Grand Lodge? One of the reasons upon which the rule is founded, is, as I suppose, that the subordinate Lodge might, by expulsion of its successive Masters, deprive itself of all its officers, and thus work its own temporary, if not permanent dissolution. The same reason will apply with equal, nay, with greater force to the case of the Grand Lodge, as each of its subordinates might, by the exercise of this power, expel all its Grand Officers, and thus effect its virtual dissolution. What is the proper tribunal in our government? Certainly the Grand Lodge, to whom, by the old constitutions, was entrusted the *sole* power of suspending or expelling, not merely its own officers, but even the private members of the Craft. Could I see no other objection to the action of the subordinate Lodge, its novelty and startling violation of all the usages of good government would be with me insurmountable.'

"And the committee to whom this portion of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master's address was referred, reported the following resolution :

"Resolved, That a subordinate Lodge has not the right to try its Master, but that he is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone.

"And although some of the Grand Lodges have conceded this right to belong to the subordinate Lodges, yet it is believed by your committee, that the right is now generally admitted to belong to the Grand Lodges alone. The authority of the *Masonic Lexicon* is decisive on the question : 'The power of a Master in his Lodge is absolute. He

is the supreme arbiter of all questions of order, so far as the meeting is concerned, nor can any appeal be made from his decision to that of the Lodge. He is amenable for his conduct to the Grand Lodge alone, and to that body must every complaint against him be made. For no misdemeanor, however great, can he be tried by his Lodge, for, as no one has a right to preside there in his presence except himself, it would be absurd to suppose that he could sit as the judge in his own case. This is the decision that has been made on the subject by every Grand Lodge in the United States, which has entertained the question, and it may be now considered as a settled law of Masonry.'

"The committee recommend the resolution as adopted by the National Convention, viz. :

"Resolved, That a subordinate Lodge has not the right to try its Master, but that he is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone."

THE RIGHT OF A GRAND LODGE TO CONFER THE DEGREE OF PAST MASTER.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, reported at the annual communication in 1846, 'That it is not in the power of Grand Lodges to confer the degree of Past Master, except on Masters duly elected to preside over a Lodge.' And the committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida, at its annual communication in December, 1846, in reviewing this opinion, say: 'Your committee are of opinion that no higher degree than Master can be conferred by a Grand Lodge in any case. The charters of all Blue Lodges give authority only to enter, pass, and raise to the Master's degree.' And the committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland say: 'In these sentiments your committee fully agree with the Florida committee; but to the remainder of the sentence, regret that the Florida committee have expressed the sentiment therein contained. Your committee read it with a shudder; they hope the brethren in Florida will reflect and recant, and that they will not attempt to *argue* the point, as on this point your committee are *not* open to conviction, and dread the ruinous consequences which could not but arise if this doctrine were of general acceptance.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida assure their brethren of Maryland that they will not shock their feelings by an 'attempt to *argue* the point,' or to insist on 'the sentiment therein contained.' The remainder of the sentence, to which the Maryland committee refer, is in these words: '*And a Grand Lodge, as the committee contends, derives all its powers from the subordinate Lodges; they, of course, cannot give more power than they possess.*' It is readily admitted that these words are susceptible of a construction much stronger than the committee intended they should convey, particularly if assimilated to the genius of our national confederation. But it is believed that the idea which the committee intended to convey was, as Lodges and Chapters are constituted in the United States, that a Grand Lodge being constituted by subordinate Lodges, whose powers were confined to the three

symbolic degree of initiating, passing, and raising, possessed only those powers, and could not confer the higher degrees, or authorize the subordinate Lodges so to do. But it is very clear that the power of conferring the Mark, and Past Master's degree, was once exercised by the Blue Lodges of the United States, until those degrees were transferred to the Royal Arch Chapter.

"We find it stated in the Masonic Lexicon, that 'when a brother, who has never before presided, has been elected the Master of a Lodge, an emergent Lodge of Past Masters, consisting of not less than three, is convened, and all but Past Masters retiring, the degree is conferred upon the newly elected officer.'

"But the degree is also conferred in Royal Arch Chapters, where it succeeds the Mark Master's degree. The conferring of this degree, which has no historical connection with the rest of the degrees, in a Chapter, arises from the following circumstance: Originally, when Chapters of Royal Arch Masonry were under the government of Lodges, in which the degree was then always conferred, it was a part of the regulations that no one could receive the Royal Arch degree, unless he had previously presided in the Lodge as Master. When the Chapters became independent, the regulation could not be abolished, for that would have been an innovation; the difficulty has, therefore, been obviated, by making every candidate for the degree of Royal Arch, a Past Master before his exaltation; and consequently those degrees were surrendered to the Royal Arch Chapter, and cannot, therefore, in good faith, be resumed by the Blue Lodges.

"Your committee fully agree in the views as expressed by the committee of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, 'that it is not in conformity with ancient usages, but contrary to the same, for any Grand Lodge, as such, to confer the degree of Past Master on any brother, unless he shall have been duly elected or appointed to preside in some legally constituted subordinate Lodge. That no other description of Past Masters are *ex officio*, and by virtue of such degree, members of a Grand Lodge, except such as have been so elected or appointed,' and submit the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That that the right to confer the Past Master's degree, belongs exclusively to the Royal Arch Chapter, except that when it becomes *actually necessary to qualify* a Master-elect, to preside in the chair, an emergent Lodge of Past Masters may confer so much of the Past Master degree on the Master elected, as shall be necessary to qualify him to preside."

THE EXCLUSION OF ENTERED APPRENTICES AND FELLOW CRAFTS FROM FUNERAL PROCESSIONS.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Lodge, in their last annual report, in noticing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, say: 'The following resolution, adopted by the

Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, seems to be in violation of Masonic usage, as laid down in funeral processions, by Jeremy Cross and others, viz. :

'Resolved, That the Lodges under this jurisdiction, be instructed to exclude Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts from funeral processions.'

"In this opinion, the committee erred, through inadvertence. In Cross's *Masonic Chart* in processions for dedications, or laying corner-stones, etc., a place is provided for Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts. But in funeral processions, no place is provided for Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts; and any Master Mason will perceive, on a moment's reflection, that none but Master Masons can be buried with Masonic honors, and none but Master Masons should be admitted in the procession. The *Ahiman Rezon* of South Carolina provides places in funeral processions for *Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts*; and there is no doubt but that this was the cause of the inadvertence of the committee. But it is believed to be erroneous, and the committee offer the following resolution :

"Resolved, That Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not entitled to places in a funeral procession."

RULES OF ORDER, ETC.

"Some of the Grand Lodges have introduced into practice for their government, in the transaction of business, the popular terms of public assemblies, such as *to adjourn, calling the previous question, calling the ayes and nays, limiting debate*, and entertaining minority reports; and Virginia, Ohio, Florida, &c., have noticed the practice as an innovation upon Masonic customs. The committee of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, in their last report, in noticing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, say: 'This Grand Lodge joins the Grand Lodge of Virginia in somewhat caustic animadversions upon our code of by-laws, for introducing parliamentary rules for our government.'

"While a part of your committee are opposed to many of the provisions of said by-laws, they cannot withhold an expression of astonishment in noticing some of the arguments, both of Virginia and Ohio, regarding them. The Grand Lodge of Virginia refers to the calling of the 'previous question, making the motion to adjourn always in order,' &c.; and declares these regulations to be fraught with evils of no common magnitude, and entirely subversive of some of the fundamental principles of our honored institution—'suspending some of the established prerogatives of the Grand Master.' Will the Grand Lodges of Virginia and Ohio inform us what are the 'established prerogatives' of the Grand Master in their respective States? How much of the ancient prerogatives of that officer is still in force? But the Grand Lodge of Ohio not only sanctions all that the Grand Lodge of Virginia has said, but adds, that 'they are innovations upon ancient usage, there can scarcely be a doubt in the mind of a well informed Mason, and ought not to be tolerated or repeated.'

"Now your committee will not set up any claims to a higher standard of Masonic erudition, but they humbly think that these rules are the legitimate offspring of innovations long since recognized by both the Grand Lodges named, viz., the establishment of powers of Grand Lodges. Anciently, the Grand Master had the entire government of the Craft; but Grand Lodges, as they now exist, even in Ohio and Virginia, have stripped him, by common consent, of all his ancient powers; and they are, accordingly, exercised by these deliberative bodies; and it surely will not be denied, that all the Grand Lodges have become, and are, to the full extent, legislative assemblies. If so, it is passing strange that a legislative rule shall be repudiated. The truth is that all the Grand Lodges of the United States are governed by parliamentary rules; although, in some instances, things have not appropriate names. For instance, the Grand Lodge of Ohio (see first page of published proceedings), say: 'The Grand Master announced the following standing committees: Ways and Means, Grievances,' &c., &c. Is this ancient usage? Again: 'The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.' Is the term 'adjournment' used in this connection in Ancient Masonry? Well, one would suppose that the Grand Lodge of Virginia is at least free from any of the *modern* rules; but even it 'goes into Grand Committee of the Whole.' The term 'Committee of the Whole' is believed to have originated with the Parliament of Great Britain, and certainly it is nowhere to be found in Ancient Masonry.

"If it be proper to continue the use of legislative powers in Grand Lodges, it appears clearly expedient to leave them free to establish such rules as will best promote that end."

"*These remarks apply also to the Grand Lodge of Florida.*' With all deference to the opinions of our brethren of Missouri, we of the committee of 'the Grand Lodge of Florida,' acknowledge a full sense of the imperfections of our nature, and our willingness to give a listening ear to the instructions of our elder and more experienced brethren; and to abandon error when convinced of it. We know we have many rough corners yet, which require to be broken off, to fit us to the builder's use; that imperfection is the lot of humanity, and that the great object of our glorious Institution, planned by the Supreme Architect, who hath no imperfection, is to correct our errors, and improve our condition as men and as Masons. The committee of the Grand Lodge of Florida are disposed, in a spirit of fraternal kindness, to receive the 'remarks' of our more experienced brethren of Missouri, and have tried to draw instruction from them; but with great deference, we feel ourselves constrained to say that we have not been convinced by their reasoning, nor instructed by their historical developments, in regard to 'the establishment and powers of Grand Lodges.' We have not been able to find out at what period of Masonic history these important changes occurred, when the *Grand Master was stripped by common con-*

sent of all his ancient powers, and 'all the Grand Lodges have become, and are, to the full extent, legislative assemblies ;' or from whence the authority was derived, for the introduction 'of innovations long since recognized,' etc. We respectfully think that our brethren of Missouri have assumed facts, to sustain conclusions, which would not be authorized if the facts really existed. 'It cannot be admitted that innovations, of however long standing, can sanction a continuation of them ; or that the errors of one Masonic body, can justify errors in another. Your committee know very well, that bodies of Masons may, and do, assemble for the transaction of business, and organize themselves, as other 'deliberative bodies,' as in conventions, and 'committees of the whole,' and appoint their *Presidents, Chairmen*, etc. ; but it surely cannot be contended that *such bodies* are *Lodges*, or possess any of their characteristics, either in *formation* or *authority*. We of the Grand Lodge of Florida, fraternally suggest to our Missouri brethren, that we know no difference in the *formation* and *labor* of a subordinate Lodge, from that of a Grand Lodge ; they both are formed of Master Masons, *when opened in the third degree—work in the same way, and the Master governs the Craft in the same way*. And we respectfully ask, if the argument be good, in support of 'Parliamentary Rules,' as 'best to promote the ends of legislation,' why not carry it out to the extent of its logical consequences, and place a *President* or *Speaker* in the *Master's Chair*, and *Door-keeper* and *Sergeant-at-Arms*, in the place of the *Steward* and *Tyler* ? But the *Ancient Charges* instruct us otherwise. 'The power of a Master in his Lodge is absolute. He is the supreme arbiter of all questions of order, so far as the meeting is concerned, nor can any appeal be made from his decision to that of the Lodge. The right of instruction forms a part of our ancient regulations. He is to be treated with the utmost reverence and respect while in the Chair, and his commands must be implicitly obeyed. The ancient charges on this subject are explicit. 'You are not to hold private committees, or separate conversation, without leave from the Master, nor to interrupt the Master,—but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship.' Hence we find that the Master's authority in the Lodge is as despotic as the sun in the firmament, which was placed there by the Creator, never to deviate from its accustomed course, till the declaration is promulgated, that time is no more.

"Masonry has a peculiar language of its own, which has come down from time immemorial, and is a part of its history, and should never be changed or altered ; for it is by this, as well as by other forms, that Masons know one another.'

"Resolved, That the gavel in the hands of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, best comports with *Parliamentary* rules of order known to ancient Freemasonry—the Master being supreme for the time being.

"The committee now come to the consideration of those questions of policy which constitute the second class ; and first, the proposition for a General Grand Lodge.

GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

"The proposition for the formation of a General Grand Lodge for the United States, has been made at various periods, for the last half century, or more, and failed. The present proposition was brought forward by the Grand Lodge of Maryland some three or four years ago, and has received the action, it is believed, of all the Grand Lodges in the Union, some taking strong grounds in support of the proposition, and others making strong opposition to the whole scheme.

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in a very able address to the Grand Lodge, at its annual communication, in Dec., 1846, says: 'In a former communication I took occasion to express my aversion to any special conventions, whose acts might only be conditionally binding! The result in this instance (the Convention to be held at Winchester, Virginia, in May, 1846), proves their inutility, and strengthens me in convictions long entertained and expressed, that the establishment of a General Grand Lodge is of the most vital importance. Some of our sister Grand Lodges have expressed disapprobation of such a body; but I have seen no substantial reason advanced for abandoning the efforts for its erection. The innovations not only permitted and practiced by some Grand Lodges, but sometimes absolutely insisted on as original landmarks, and the various regulations of different Masonic bodies, conflicting with each other, imperatively call for such an institution—in fact, I can discover no other plan for preventing the whole Masonic system from becoming ultimately chaotic, by the infringements upon its fair proportions, which are daily sanctioned. Our Grand Lodge has already taken action in the premises, but I am of opinion that the delegates should be so instructed, as that any three, assembling at the appointed time, shall be authorized to proceed at once to organize, agree upon all necessary preliminaries, draft a Constitution, and continue in session until they shall have accomplished, as fully as possible, the object of their appointment. When the report shall have been spread before the State Grand Lodges, such as think proper can adopt the same, and be governed accordingly. It is, of course, desirable that a majority, at least, of Grand Lodges should concur—at all events, it would be gratifying to see even two or three agree upon some uniformity. True, discordant feelings seem rarely to be produced by discrepancies of practice; still that is no good reason for suffering them to exist.' And the committee on Foreign Correspondence, say: "The question of a General Grand Lodge has been extensively discussed, and its propriety in some sections admitted and advocated, while the greater number of our sister Grand Lodges have opposed that measure. Your committee have examined some of the arguments for and against the proposition, and have come deliberately to the conclusion, and upon the same reasoning as that of our brethren in other States, that such an institution is not only highly

necessary, but almost absolutely indispensable. The necessity of some *general head* seems to be universally admitted to be as great, as respects the several Grand Lodges, as it is with regard to the subordinate Lodges in the respective States.' And they submit the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge approves of the proposition to establish a General Grand Lodge, and invites the coöperation of her sister Grand Lodges, by the appointment of delegates, to meet in Convention, for the purpose of reporting a Constitution for the government of the General Grand Lodge.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, say : 'There is a fearful want of union among Masons in this nation, which if not soon remedied, must detract much, very much, from its ability to do good.

"One proposes a union of all Masonic authority, by creating a Lodge which shall give the law to its subordinates upon this continent : which shall be the centre of Masonic authority in this nation. These say, that in union there is strength ; while others, again, see nothing but destruction in such union. These latter, however, comprise but a small portion in number, of the Lodges who have spoken. We feel impelled to speak boldly upon this subject ; but let it be known, now, that we could not, nor would we utter a word, which can hurt the most delicate sensibility of any brother.

"Many of the Grand Lodges, and this among the number, have declared clearly and strongly for a General Grand Lodge, which shall have authority as such throughout the United States.' 'The more we reflect upon this proposition—the more we converse upon it with intelligent Masons, the stronger becomes our convictions, of not only its expediency, but of its absolute necessity. It is urged that it destroys the *independence* of the now Grand bodies ; admit it, and what then ? Does any evil result ? But it is *not true*. There being a General Grand Lodge, does not destroy, change, or curtail the just powers of any body. We need an *authority*, a *power*, a *supreme*, a *dernier*. Had we such, Connecticut would have no occasion to say to New York that she arrogantly assumed to be the only source of Masonic light West of the Atlantic. All cause of discontent would be removed. There would be no room for jealousies to stand ; and we should all look up to the parent body, and acknowledge with pride and affection, that Masonry in North America had a head.

"An intelligent brother has expressed a doubt whether the Grand Lodges *could* so far surrender their *inherent* powers, as to constitute a General Grand Lodge. To this we answer, "that all government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed."

"We need a Masonic *government*, which can only exist through *union*.

"It is told us every day, that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in Masonry—that the old landmarks must be preserved.

“‘Tennessee prescribes a particular religious belief; Mississippi admits those defective in bodily vigor; Alabama, New York, and Wisconsin, claim to issue dispensations out of their proper jurisdictional limits; Connecticut calls New York arrogant; Pennsylvania accuses all of a spirit of pedantry in parading their yearly proceedings, and recording *ayes* and *nays*, with as much ceremony as if the weal of nations hung upon the count. All this is wrong.

“‘Notwithstanding the human nature, apparent in all these little matters, there is, professedly, a devotion to Masonic principles, an intellectual capacity displayed in all the published proceedings, which do credit to those concerned, and which your committee feel constrained to predict, would place a General Grand Lodge of the United States upon such a lofty height, as that a flood of effulgence would overspread our whole continent, and dissipate every doubt of the expediency of such a measure.’

“The correspondence committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, say: ‘Many arguments in favor of the proposed measure, which are manifest to all, have been urged by its friends; while its enemies have not failed to present what they consider insuperable obstacles in the way of its success. We would be willing and disposed to unite with our sister Grand Lodges, and try the plan, hoping that good would result, while we entertain no fears of any evil arising from the measure, of a magnitude proportionate to the benefits that ought to follow.’

“Whilst, on the other hand, objections are urged against the institution of a General Grand Lodge for the United States, upon the grounds that a Grand Lodge has no power to surrender its independence.

“The committee of correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, say: ‘We regard such an institution as striking at the very root of fundamental principles, and the removal of ancient landmarks. There is no human power that can transfer the allegiance of Lodges, or individual Masons, from the State Grand Lodge, under whose jurisdiction they work, and no rescript of a General Grand Lodge, can be obeyed in any State, if it interferes with the old Constitutions or inherent powers of a State body.’ And if it did, that its powers would be lost in the accumulating powers of a General Grand Lodge. ‘If a General Grand Lodge be organized, it must, of necessity, be clothed with the supreme prerogative of a regularly constituted body of Masons, possessing legislative, judicial, and executive powers, otherwise it would be only such a body as a National Convention.’ ‘The proposed General Grand Lodge is to be composed of not more than thirty Masons, even if all be present. If the number of representatives be increased, you will make the heavy cost attending the travelling to, and remaining at the General Grand Lodge, drive from its deliberations all save a few, and they not on all occasions the wisest and best. The body must necessarily be small, and can hardly, even in its action, be es-

teemed a proper exponent of the will of the great Masonic family.' The committee of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee coincide in opinion with the committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

"In the convention, to consider the propriety of forming a General Grand Lodge for the United States, delegates from seven Grand Lodges appeared in the city of Baltimore on the 23d September last, viz. : North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, and organized the Convention, and proceeded to business ; and adopted a Constitution of a 'Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States of America,' and an 'address to the officers and members of the several Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the United States.' The fourth article of the Constitution provides, *temporarily*, that 'That the foregoing Constitution shall be printed, and five copies thereof transmitted, as early as possible, by the Secretary of this Convention, to each of the several Grand Lodges in the United States. If before the first of January, 1849, sixteen of said Grand Lodges shall adopt the same, it shall be established and confirmed. If not, it shall be null and void.'

"The Grand Lodges, adopting this Constitution shall forthwith report their adoption to the President of this Convention, to the Secretary of the same, and to the Grand Master of the District of Columbia, for the time being. This threefold notice is required to avoid accident from death or otherwise.'

"The President, or in case of his death or disability, the Secretary, and if both be dead or disabled, the said Grand Master shall, so soon as sixteen Grand Lodges have ratified this Constitution, give notice to all the Grand Lodges in the United States to meet in Convention, to organize the Supreme Grand Lodge ; and all Grand Lodges sending delegations to that Convention, shall be received as subordinate to said Supreme Grand Lodge.'

"And said Convention, if holden, shall meet in Baltimore, on the second Tuesday in July, 1849.'

"The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Florida do hereby adopt the Constitution framed by the General Masonic Convention which assembled at Baltimore on the 23d of September last, to constitute a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States."

THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

"This system originated in the Grand Lodge of New York. It is proposed that each Grand Lodge in the United States, or if can be sufficiently extended in the world, shall appoint a worthy and intelligent Mason, to reside near and represent it in every other Grand Lodge. These representatives are required to attend regularly the meetings of the Grand Lodges to which they are accredited, to communicate to their constituents an abstract of the proceedings, and such other Masonic matter of interest, such as expulsions, rejections, establishment

of clandestine Lodges, etc., as may occur in the respective jurisdictions in which they reside. Their costume is that of the Grand Lodge which they represent, and they are also entitled to bear a banner with its colors.

"This system has not met with universal approbation, and has, as yet, but partially succeeded. Its friends argue in its favor the close union which will thereby be cemented between the various Masonic bodies, thus represented, and the greater facility of communication.

"But on the other side, its opposers have offered weighty objections against its adoption. Besides the heavy expense which would necessarily attend the universal adoption of the system, there is one which certainly claims the attentive consideration of every brother, which is that the proceedings of the Grand Lodges would go forth in an unofficial form, and be liable to lead to error and confusion. It is hardly to be presumed that the representatives would all take the same view of every subject that might come under discussion, or that they would understand it alike in all its bearings. They would undoubtedly faithfully represent the matter to their constituents, as they should respectively understand it. But their understanding of it would probably, in many cases, clash with the annual report of the official officer. Their representations would not, therefore, furnish safe grounds for action. The Grand Lodges would still be constrained to wait for the official report. Again, there is danger that the representative might not always be able to discriminate between what it would be proper to communicate, and what is strictly of a local character. There is not probably a Grand Lodge in the country which has not before it, at every communication, some subject which it would prefer to keep within the limits of its own jurisdiction; and it is one of the errors of human nature that there should be an ambitious desire on the part of the representatives to communicate everything, which, in their judgment, might tend to raise them in the estimation or contribute to the interest of their constituents. They might not always discriminate safely.

"These objections are certainly important, and seem to have deterred some of the Grand Lodges from appointing representatives. Whether the system will ever become universal is, exceedingly problematical. The enthusiasm on the subject which existed in some parts of the country, when it was first proposed, appears now considerably to have abated.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, says :

"'The Representative system is highly recommended; and its advantages are made manifest in the extensive and valuable information furnished the Fraternity in the United States, by the means of this system, through the Grand Lodge of New York.'

"The Grand Lodges which appear to approve the system, are Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Connecticut, South Carolina, New York, Texas, Florida; and the Grand Lodges

which have rejected it, are Maryland, Massachusetts, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Missouri, and perhaps some others, and some Grand Lodges have expressed no opinion, for or against the system.

"The following resolution was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That so far as the Grand Lodge of Florida is concerned, the said representative system be, and the same is hereby discontinued and abolished."

GRAND LODGE CERTIFICATES.

"This system was introduced, and insisted upon, by the Grand Lodge of New York, 'that no Mason be admitted to any subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, or receive the charities of any Lodge, unless he shall, on such application, exhibit a Grand Lodge certificate, duly attested by the proper authorities, except he is known to the Lodge to be a worthy brother,' and no doubt, from the existence of certain clandestine Lodges within her jurisdiction, such a regulation was demanded by the dictates of prudence, as well for the purity of Lodges within her jurisdiction as without.

"But it appears the system was attended with many objections, and those Grand Lodges which adopted the system have abandoned it.

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland has adopted the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the resolution making it obligatory on the Lodges of this State to demand a diploma from all strangers applying to visit, be and the same is hereby repealed, and that it be left discretionary with the different Lodges.'

"The Grand Lodge of South Carolina adopted the following regulation :

"*No transient person shall be examined at the door of any Lodge under this jurisdiction, on his presenting himself as a visitor, unless he first furnish the examining committee with a Grand Lodge certificate.'*

"The Grand Lodge of Maine declare 'it inexpedient to grant Grand Lodge certificates of membership to members of subordinate Lodges.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Michigan report, that 'a Past Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge was appointed a delegate to the proposed National Masonic Convention, then to be held at Winchester, in the State of Virginia. Our delegate was a worthy brother, in high standing in our midst, Past Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, High Priest of Monroe Royal Arch Chapter, and had credentials as a delegate, signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, and under the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge, and yet with all this evidence in his pocket, and with all the notoriety attached to his name, as a high public functionary of this Grand Lodge, he was refused admission into a subordinate Lodge in the city of New York, because he had not a *particular kind of Grand Lodge certificate*. The facts are briefly alluded to simply to *illustrate the practical operation of the doctrine of Grand Lodge certificates*.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, 'respectfully suggests to the writer of the report quoted, that the practical operation of the best of remedies for a diseased system is apt to be disagreeable, especially when administered in error, as in this case.' 'The Tyler at the door of the Lodge in the city of New York, took it upon himself to refuse an announcement of the delegate from the Grand Lodge of Michigan, for which he was reproved, so soon as the facts were known, on the following day. We make this explanation for the sake of the worthy brother, J. Smith Lee, our former estimable and courteous correspondent, and now Grand Master of the Fraternity in Michigan.'

"The Grand Lodge of New York, on the 3d June, 1846, adopted the following resolutions explanatory of the article in the Constitution relative to Grand Lodge certificates :

"*Whereas*, It has been represented to this Grand Lodge that the true intent and meaning of the use of Grand Lodge certificates has been misunderstood to the prejudice of the institution ; *and whereas*, it is a fundamental principle of the institution, as immutable as any of its landmarks, that a worthy brother Mason shall be entitled to all the fraternal and social privileges without let or hindrance ; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That in all future applications for admission at the door of a Lodge, no unusual requirement or test shall be made, but it shall be for the Lodge to judge of the worthiness of the applicant, so far as to give him a seat.

"*And be it further Resolved*, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent a rigid examination, by Grand Lodge certificates, or in any other way, those applications for charity made by the unworthy, whom experience has taught us, have no legitimate claim on our consideration or sympathy.'

"The correspondence committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, report that, 'Many of the Grand Lodges have receded from the position once taken on this subject, and rescinded their regulations requiring one from each visiting brother. Your committee say, they 'think much good might result from a universal requirement of these certificates, but that much, if not all, is lost by a partial acquiescence on the part of the several Grand Lodges.

"It is evident to your committee, that unless the system is general, and adhered to firmly, it cannot accomplish the good desired by its friends ; and that a partial enforcement of the rule by some Grand Lodges, whilst others totally abandon it, will have a tendency to create confusion, and, in many instances, injustice ; except in a specified instance, where we are apprised of the existence of clandestine Lodges. We therefore submit the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That it is not considered necessary to adopt the system of *Grand Lodge Certificates*, except at the request of the Grand Lodge of New York, within whose jurisdiction 'we are informed of the existence of several clandestine Lodges.' It is therefore required of the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, that no person applying to visit, from the city or State of New York, shall be examined, who has not a *Grand Lodge Certificate*, signed by the *Grand Secretary*, under the seal of the *Grand Lodge*."

THE RIGHT TO TAX UNAFFILIATED MEMBERS.

"The Grand Lodge of Virginia passed the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to make the resolution which passed the Grand Lodge in 1843, concerning non-contributing Masons not members of Lodges, a part of the subject of a circular to each of the Masons of subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, and request them to notify all such members in their vicinity, through their Secretary, in order that the resolution may be enforced.

"The Grand Lodge of Arkansas, at its annual communication in November, 1846, adopted the following preamble and resolutions :

"*Whereas*, It has become the practice of many professing to be Masons, and who claim and enjoy all the privileges of Masonry, without contributing one cent towards the support of the same : *And whereas*, this Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, did resolve, that all Masons should belong to some regular Lodge : *And whereas*, from the returns of Lodges, we find almost as many, if not more Masons, who are not attached, than who are, claiming from the Lodges in their neighborhood, all the Masonic honors in case of death or distress of any kind. Therefore

"*Be it Resolved by this Grand Lodge*, That a tax fee of one dollar per year, be collected from all Masons not members of a Lodge or Chapter, and the Lodges under whose jurisdiction they shall reside, are hereby empowered to collect the same ; and said tax shall be appropriated especially to the charity fund of such Lodge ; and at the next communication, the Lodges be required to transmit the amount of all moneys received from such fund, and the names of persons from whom received, and the names of all that fail to pay the same ; when the Grand Lodge shall take such steps in the matter, as shall be deemed expedient, either to suspend or expel such brother from all Masonic rights.

"*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of all Masons, residing under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to attach themselves to some regular Lodge. *Provided*, They shall live within twenty miles of any Lodge ; and if they fail to do so, they shall not be entitled to any of the rights and benefits of Masonry.

"The Grand Lodge of Tennessee, at its communication in 1846,

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that no brother has a right to the charities or privileges of the Order, who withdraws from the Fraternity, and does not in any way contribute to its support, when he has the ability so to do.

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, at its last communication, in his address, says : ' Intimately connected with this branch of Masonic government, is the practice which exists in some quarters, of dimitting from Lodges, either to escape the payment of dues, or because their own particular will has not controlled in the local administration of their Lodge. As Masons, we cannot recognize this course as in conformity with Masonic law, or in conformity with the great interests and designs of the institution. The obligations of the Fraternity, and conformity, are voluntarily assumed. They need never interfere with one's duty in any other relation of life. An entire conformity to Masonic precept and practice cannot but promote the individual's best interest, and it can never be admitted that any member can throw off his obligations to the Craft, while the tie towards him remains unbroken and unimpaired. As well may the citizen withdraw from the government, the children from the parent, the branch from the trunk. The payment of dues is never made imperative upon any brother whose circumstances render him incompetent to discharge them

without injury ; while submission to the voice of the majority, fairly expressed, is one of our fundamental laws, to the observance of which we are bound by all our Masonic ties ;' and a committee of the Grand Lodge reported the following resolutions, which were laid on the table :

"Resolved, No brother shall be allowed to dimit from any Lodge, unless for the purpose of uniting with some other Lodge, or that he is about to remove, and does remove, out of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, Every Master Mason (whose ability will permit), and who is not a member of any Lodge, shall pay to the Secretary of the Lodge nearest his residence, the Grand Lodge dues ; and in case of his neglect or refusal to do so, said Lodge shall deal with such brother in the same manner as one of their own members, which shall be suspension from the rights of Masonry, subject to the revision of the Grand Lodge.

"The following amendment to the by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, was offered and laid over to the next Grand annual communication :

"It shall be the duty of the subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to require all Master Masons living within their jurisdiction, who are not members of any Lodge, to pay into the Treasury of said subordinate Lodge, the sum of one dollar and fifty cents yearly, which money shall be set apart as a charity fund, and to be used for no other purpose.

"That the subordinate Lodges are hereby authorized to suspend or expel any Master Mason within their jurisdiction, who shall refuse to pay the same, unless, in their opinion, his pecuniary circumstances render the collection improper.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee say : 'The subject embraced in the foregoing resolutions, is one which has recently engaged the attention of several Grand Lodges, and while some have imposed a tax, by others it is held under consideration. In the disposal of this subject, there are many difficulties. That every Mason should contribute to the support of the Order, whose privileges he claims and whose benefits he enjoys, if his pecuniary situation will permit, your committee believe cannot be successfully controverted. When admitted to the privileges and benefits of Masonry, he takes upon himself the performance of certain duties, which he is expected to perform. Among these duties is that of contributing to the support of the Order ; but the question arises, how can he be compelled to contribute if he refuse so to do ? The Grand Lodge may impose an annual tax, but can it enforce its collection, paying due regard to the principles of the Order ? Your committee much doubt whether a Lodge can legitimately suspend or expel for such refusal. As your committee believe that all such resolutions would be inoperative, they think the matter should be left to the sense of justice of those brethren who are not members of Lodges. An appeal to their justice and magnanimity would, in the opinion of your committee, be more effective than attempts at coercion.'

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, at its last annual communication, in an able address to the brethren, says : 'In the vicinity of all subordinate Lodges, there may usually be found

many dimitted members, or individuals of our Fraternity, disconnected with any Lodge, upon whom really, the obligations of Masonry rest with as binding force as though they were regular members ; but, in consequence of their disconnection, they are exempt from those pecuniary obligations involved in our duties as Masons ; and often, when the treasuries of our subordinate Lodges are deficient, and it becomes necessary that brethren should draw upon their individual resources to relieve the wants of a suffering brother, or his distressed dependents, we scarcely ever think it worth while to apply to those for aid, who for any cause have chosen not to connect themselves with a subordinate Lodge ; for the prevailing idea with such usually is, that not being members of any Lodge, they are consequently freed from those pecuniary obligations which our duties as Masons imperiously demand. I submit therefore, whether or not it would be right to impose an annual tax upon all such Masons within their jurisdiction, to be paid to the nearest Lodge, and upon failure to pay, to be cut off from all the privileges and benefits of Masonry. The amounts thus collected, to constitute a fund for educational purposes, or such other objects, as in the opinion of this Grand Lodge would be wise and proper.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, commenting on the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, say : 'Your committee not only doubt the propriety of this resolution, but also the power of any Lodge, supreme or subordinate, so to deal for such cause, with one who is not and does not choose to become a member of a Lodge. That a Master Mason, in good standing, has a *right* to withdraw from a Lodge, and cease membership, your committee believe is no where *openly* denied. Good and sufficient reasons do exist, in many instances, why a man should cease to be a member of a Lodge ; and he may still, though not an active member, do much to advance the interest and promote the reputation of the institution. Yet, enforce the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, which have been adopted, which are advocated by other Grand Lodges, and you practically deny his right to cease membership of a Lodge by withdrawal, and compel him, under the penalty of expulsion, to contribute to the funds of a Lodge, at the expense, perhaps, of his family comforts, and to the injury of his business ; and compel him to travel, if he live at so great a distance, twenty miles to the meetings of his Lodge, under the same penalty ; for your committee believe that a worthy Master Mason is always entitled to the benefits and rights of Masonry, unless cut off by *suspension* or *expulsion*. The object of Masonry never was to extort, *volens volens*, money from its votaries. Such are not its principles or teachings. The advocating such doctrines cannot advance the interest or reputation of the institution ; but will, as your committee fear, do much to destroy its usefulness, and mar its harmony. Compulsive membership deprives it of the title, *Free and Accepted*.'

"The editor of the *Masonic Review*, published at Cincinnati, review-

ing the opinion of the Maryland committee, says: 'We admit he has a *right* to withdraw, and to cease his connection with Masonry altogether. He has also a *right* to withdraw (for the ancient constitutions give him that right), *for the purpose of joining some other Lodge*, to which he is more convenient, or for the purpose of uniting with others to form a new Lodge, when the old one has become too numerous. But when he withdraws merely to avoid paying dues, *we* think he violates a provision of the ancient constitutions, and the Fraternity have the *right* to exclude him from the privileges, which one who conforms to, and abides by our laws, is always entitled to. The brethren in Maryland say that the *right* to withdraw is no where *openly* denied. We hope they will pardon us if we are compelled to differ from them. Our ancient constitutions, which we suppose form a part of the laws of Masonry in Maryland, as well as everywhere else, and such laws, too, as dare not be violated with impunity, contain the following proceedings on this subject:

"Every brother should belong to some particular Lodge, and cannot be absent without incurring censure, if not necessarily detained.

"No set or number of brethren, shall withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they are made, or were afterwards admitted members, unless the Lodge becomes too numerous; nor even then, without a dispensation from the Grand Master or Deputy. And when thus separated, they must either immediately join themselves to such other Lodges that they shall like best, or else obtain the Grand Master's warrant to join in forming a new Lodge, to be constituted in good time.'

"The above is from Anderson's *Constitutions*, compiled from the records of the Lodges and immemorial usages, and approved by the Grand Lodge of England, in June, 1721.

"We submit to our brethren whether the right to withdraw, and remain unaffiliated with any Lodge, is not here *openly* denied. We have no doubt our brethren in Kentucky will carefully examine this question, and come to a correct conclusion.'

"Your committee have, with much care, given the views which have been taken on both sides of this important question, and confess they think the argument strong on both sides; but we cannot admit the policy, or assent to the right to tax unaffiliated Masons. We must appeal to their sense of justice, and remind them of their obligations as Masons, which they may not lightly put aside. We submit the following resolution:

"Resolved, *as the sense of this Grand Lodge*, That no Lodge has the right to tax, or in any other way, to demand contributions from regularly dimitted Masons, who reside within their jurisdiction."

MASONIC JURISDICTION.

"This subject has been agitated by several of the Grand Lodges, and by many of the subordinate Lodges, but it is not believed that in

any instance has the right to disregard it been seriously contended for. When collisions have occurred, the causes have been found to have originated through inadvertence or want of correct information, and after proper investigation, have been amicably settled. The committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa say: 'On this subject your committee are advocates of the most rigid adherence to limits both clear and definite. This Grand Lodge, while it insists upon the exclusive control over all Masons on the part of citizens within its jurisdictional limits, should be far, very far, from disregarding the rule itself, or permitting it to be violated by one of its subordinate Lodges. Notwithstanding, well attested instances have come to the knowledge of your committee, of citizens in this State going into another State, where there is a Grand Lodge, and there receiving degrees of Masonry, and also citizens of another State coming into this State, and being invested with the degrees of Masonry, by Lodges subordinate to, and under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, both of which, in the opinion of your committee, are, on the part of individuals, highly censurable, and on the part of Lodges, unmasonic; and if repeated, prompt action should be had by this Grand Lodge, to secure the rights of other Grand Lodges, and to protect its own. Some Grand Lodges have gone so far as to declare that persons so receiving the degrees, shall, by them, be regarded and treated as clandestine Masons; a position, we believe, untenable and wrong. Yet it shows the extent of the evil, and the want of an adequate remedy.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in reviewing the correspondence of the different Grand Lodges, say: 'In a portion of this correspondence, the question is raised and debated with great ability, whether the Lodges in any State can admit persons in another State, within whose borders there is a regularly organized Lodge, to the benefits of Masonry. If in any case such a power should be exercised, it ought always to be with the utmost care and circumspection. But, in our country, such a case can hardly ever arise. He who is worthy of the high distinction of a Mason, can best secure it where he is best known. To his claims, those to whom his virtues and capacity have been exhibited, can most surely testify. A distant Lodge should not be permitted to extend its jurisdiction and limits to another Lodge, but especially should such conflicting jurisdiction be denied, whether an attempt is made to extend it from one State to another; or, in other words, to give concurrent jurisdiction to two Grand Lodges over the same State. It is hoped such a doctrine will not hereafter be practically enforced.'

"Your committee consider the question of Masonic jurisdiction as settled. But there is another question, growing out of this question of Masonic jurisdiction, which deserves notice. Several of the Grand Lodges have advanced the opinion, that 'persons residing in one State, who are made Masons within the jurisdiction of another State, return-

ing to the State in which they reside, ought to be declared *clandestine*, and Masonic intercourse with them interdicted.' Can a clandestine Mason be made in a legally constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons? We humbly conceive not. We think it is for the Lodges to correct this evil, by strictly regarding their *neighbor's landmarks*, by not admitting a stranger, without previous satisfactory information, and not by declaring the Mason who has been made in a legally constituted Lodge, a *clandestine* Mason.

"*Resolved*, That a rigid respect and forbearance should be maintained by the Grand Lodges, and their subordinate Lodges, in regard to each other's jurisdiction, which should not be willfully or designedly encroached upon by either."

EDUCATION.

"We extract with pleasure from the able report of the committee of New York: 'Amongst the prominent subjects presented in the documents received from the Grand Lodges of the several States, we find that the attention of the Fraternity is fixed upon one of peculiar interest to ourselves, in connection with our efforts for some time past to effect the establishment of an Asylum, with an ample permanent revenue, for the respectable and worthy poor of our Order, and for the protection and education of the orphan children of our departed brethren. We find that our own design is spoken of frequently, and when mentioned, always with commendation. But out of our own State, the subject of education alone has attracted particular regard. It is, we believe, some twelve or fifteen years since this subject was first recommended to the consideration of the Fraternity in Virginia, by the Grand Lodge of that State, and from year to year various plans were proposed, but none agreed to until a very recent date. The plan now in operation allows the subordinate Lodges to draw lots for the support of a beneficiary selected by them for two years, until each Lodge has been in turn assisted from the Grand Charity Fund.' At the last annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, the committee on Foreign Correspondence cheered the work onward by their commendations. "In many of the States," says their report, "great efforts are making by the Masonic Fraternity, to provide means to educate, and sustain the destitute orphan children of deceased Master Masons. In none have these labors been so decidedly successful, as in the States of New York, Kentucky, and Missouri. In each, large sums of money are annually expended for this purpose, with results which must make the heart of every sincere philanthropist leap with joy."

"'But it is chiefly to the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Kentucky, that credit is due for their earnest and steadfast efforts in this cause, which have, in the short space of three or four years, enabled those Grand Lodges to establish Seminaries of learning, which already are performing their destined purpose. Considering the importance of diffusing correct information to the Fraternity of this State, on a subject

of so much interest to them, and to the whole Masonic world, we have embodied the reports from those two Grand Lodges, and the sentiments which have been expressed by the others who are either following in their track, or watching their progress.

“The Grand Master of North Carolina, at the communication in 1845, invited the attention of the Grand Lodge to the same subject, and the committee on education made a report, recommending the formation of a fund for the establishment of a Seminary of learning under the direction of the Grand Lodge, in which may be educated the orphans, and the children of living Masons, who have not the means to confer that benefit upon their offspring. A resolution was adopted for the appointment annually of a standing committee, with instructions to carry into effect, as rapidly as possible, the establishment of a Seminary in this State. The committee on foreign correspondence in the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, rejoice that this step has been taken by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, and add that, “It especially devolves on the Masonic Fraternity, as a sacred duty, growing out of the principles of their institution, to advance, by every means in our power, the cause of education, and particularly to educate those of our household.” The Grand Master of Tennessee, the M. W. Edward Dellahenty, in an eloquent address to the Grand Lodge in October, 1846, urges “the adoption of some system of education, that shall reach the wants of all the poor and destitute children of Masons in the State, so that no Mason’s child in its limits shall be reared in ignorance.” “Send the light of education,” says he, “into every benighted spot, to dispel the gloom which error and prejudice gather over the untutored. Many Masons have died among you, leaving their children penniless and friendless, save in the Fraternity. To provide, not only for the physical wants, but moral ones, of such children, is a duty devolving upon you as members of that benevolent institution, that claims to be the widow’s solace and the orphan’s friend.”

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, deeply impressed with the magnitude and importance of this subject, make the following remarks :

““The Masonic Fraternity, as is abundantly proven, so far as *numerical strength* is concerned, stands upon better ground than ever heretofore ; but unless your committee is greatly mistaken in the appearance of things, the prosperity so much boasted of lies more in appearance than reality. True, Missouri, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, Virginia, and Maryland, are doing something in the way of education ; but what are the twenty other Grand Bodies, and twenty thousand Masons residing in other jurisdictions, doing ? About nothing ; or worse. They pay their dues, perhaps, but what good does it accomplish ? Let the great men in the Fraternity, whose far-reaching sagacity best fits them to fill its high place, answer.”

“We should be glad to devote more space to note the movement of

the Grand Lodges of Georgia, Ohio, Mississippi, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, etc., but necessity forbids our proceeding further than to quote one remark from the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, who say :

“ “In the Northern States there does not exist the necessity of the establishment of schools which is found to exist in the South and West. Their common school diffuses its blessings to all alike. Therefore, New York has her Orphan's Asylum in lieu of schools.”

“ “To this we wish to add but a single observation—that our efforts in New York are directed to a more extensive work, so that at some future time it may be said, in *New York the Freemasons take care of their own poor.*”

“This is a subject that ought to be thought of, and acted upon, by every Mason in Florida. The little we have already done in the cause of education is but the widow's mite. It may be all that we have been able to do in our situation. But we may not always be poor. Let us come up seriously to the work, with a determination to do something ; if it be but little, it will be a beginning, and in time, with careful and patient nurture, it will grow up to an institution of importance ; and the Grand Lodge of Florida may boast of her seminary of learning, and proudly stand by her sister Grand Lodges of the West.

“ *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that much can be done by the subordinate Lodges, in their neighborhoods, in the cause of education, to whose attention this subject is particularly recommended.”

SORROW LODGES.

“We see appended to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, an account of a ‘Sorrow Lodge’ held in the city of New York, by St. John's Lodge, No. 1, on the 25th of February last, to commemorate the virtues and services of Gen. Morgan Lewis, and Alexander H. Robertson, who were successively Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of New York, and distinguished men and Masons. An eloquent eulogy was pronounced on the occasion, by R. W. James Herring. It is a custom new in the United States, and perhaps the first of the kind ever held by an American Lodge. Our brethren in Germany hold their Sorrow Lodges annually ; and in French Lodges, we understand they are held at longer periods. Every symbol of Masonry discourses to living men of their duties to God, their neighbors, and themselves ; but none more eloquently than those which are used when assembled around the grave of a deceased brother, or in the performance of funeral rites in a Mourning Lodge. The assembling of Sorrow Lodges, to the memory of those worthy brethren, who have slept their last sleep since the last convocation, to us is a novel practice, though a very solemn and impressive one. We have never witnessed one, but we can imagine that here must be something peculiarly touching and appropriate in such

assemblies. We extract from the eloquent address delivered on the occasion :

“ It is a good and a pious practice ; it is founded upon the first instincts of humanity ; it hath the commendation of antiquity ; and accords with the customs of nations and tribes in every part of the world, although they may be totally dissimilar in language, religion, government, and habits of life. It is alluded to in the oldest records of the human family. Moses and the prophets, Homer and the epic poets, the cemeteries of Egypt, the mounds of Chaldea and of America, the splendid mausolea of India, Turkey, and Rome, all testify to the honors which have been paid to the dead ; and we know it hath often been the strongest objection of our Indian tribes to remove from their old hunting grounds that “ they could not abandon the graves of their fathers.” The sculptured stone, the clusters of summer flowers, the grassy mound, the drooping willow, the solemn yew, are but the emblems of unfaltering faith, unfading hope, and undying love, amidst sadness and sorrow.’

“ Your committee can but express the hope that this solemn service to the memory of our departed brethren will become a custom in every Lodge in the United States. ‘ It is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of *feasting*.’

“ The committee having disposed of the subjects which they have regarded as mere matters of policy, now approach a very painful subject, on which they forbear to express any opinion. Having carefully collected all the evidence adduced by both parties, the committee submit the whole matter to the Grand Lodge for its action.

THE CONTROVERSY BETWEEN THE GRAND LODGES OF MISSISSIPPI AND LOUISIANA.

“ The Grand Lodge of Mississippi, at its annual communication, in February, 1847, adopted the following preamble and resolutions :

“ *Whereas*, In the opinion of this Grand Lodge, each distinctive Rite, produces different powers which govern it, and is independent of all others : And, *Whereas*, no Grand Lodge of Scotch, French, or Cumulative Rites, can legally assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Lodge : therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, being composed of a Cumulation of Rites, cannot be recognized by this Grand Lodge, as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

“ *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will grant Dispensations and Charters to any legal number of Ancient York Masons, residing within the State of Louisiana, they making due application for the same.’

“ The committee of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, say : ‘ Your committee have noticed some action of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, in relation to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. The Grand Lodge of Mississippi have gone still further, and after a full investigation by a committee, have adopted resolutions disfranchising the Grand Lodge of Louisiana,

and declaring a readiness to grant charters and dispensations, within the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana ; and have, it is believed, actually granted such dispensations. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana, at its last communication, appointed a committee upon the subject, who made a spirited report, and offered a resolution interdicting all Masonic communication between the Masons of the first three degrees of that State, and the members of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi ; as also between the Masons of Louisiana and every collection or body of persons who assume to hold Masonic Lodges within the State, without a dispensation, or warrant of constitution, from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. A preamble and resolutions were also adopted, forewarning all Grand Lodges, or other supreme Masonic authority, located in any part of the world, from granting charters, warrants, or dispensations, to constitute Lodges in the State of Louisiana, disfranchising them if they do so, and also all individual Masons of that State, who hold Masonic intercourse with such Grand Lodges. That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana should, and of right ought to have exclusive jurisdiction, coëxtensive with the State, is the opinion of your committee. If the Grand Lodge of Mississippi should arrogate to itself the right, and actually grant a dispensation, or warrant to constitute a Lodge within the limits of this State, your committee do not doubt that, if, after proper remonstrance, she should persist in the wrong, the Grand Lodge would unhesitatingly declare such Lodge clandestine, and interdict all Masonic communication with the Grand Lodge, and also with the members of the Lodge so constituted. Your committee believe that both the Grand Lodge of Mississippi and of Louisiana, have acted too precipitately—the first by granting dispensations, and perhaps charters, before the Grand Lodge of Louisiana could have an opportunity of remonstrance ; and the other by too hastily adopting the stringent resolutions, without an attempt at a reconciliation. Your committee are satisfied that there are objectionable features in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana ; particularly Article 4, recited in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, they consider an innovation upon the old constitutions, which require that a man must be of lawful age, which is held by all to be twenty-one years, before he can be received into a regular Lodge ; nor do your committee know of any provision granting exclusive privileges to the sons of Masons. Your committee suppose, that if the Grand Lodge of Illinois, or any other Grand Lodge, were to amend their constitution, so as to permit such Lodges as choose to cumulate Odd Fellowship and Sons of Temperanceism, upon the degrees of Masonry, they would as properly be deemed regular as are the Louisiana Masons, with their cumulative rites.'

"A special committee of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, made a report and resolutions on this subject, which were adopted by the Grand Lodge in its sittings of the 21st of April last, and which are here

submitted to the consideration of this Grand Lodge. And the committee, in a circular, dated the 30th of May, say : 'Said report and resolutions have been published by its authority, in pamphlet form, in order to make them circulate in the Masonic world, and thus to inform the Fraternity, both in Europe and America, of a new and still more reprehensible attempt, made by the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, to create a schism among the Masons of our State.

"Our Grand Lodge recommend earnestly, to your perusal, said report and resolutions, fully convinced that after due examination, you will not hesitate, both to acknowledge the propriety of the course followed by it in this unhappy and deplorable instance, and to pass upon the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, the censure it deserves.

"As to us, members of the committee appointed by our Grand Lodge to correspond with the several castes and Grand Lodges of the Masonic world, on a question so momentous in itself, and on the practical solution of which depend the general welfare and safety of our Order, we have but one word to add :

"If the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, under the pretense that our Grand Lodge cumulates the three rites (for they all part from truth who state that we *mix* said rites), which are followed by the various Lodges under its jurisdiction, has the right to open and establish in opposition to it, another Grand Lodge, and to constitute in our State, Lodges of its own, it is self-evident that our Grand Lodge enjoys an equal right, and may, under the pretense that it is better to cumulate the different rites, open and establish a Grand Lodge in any State of our Union, where there is no cumulation of rites, in opposition to the Grand Lodge now existing in said State, and constitute there as many Lodges, of the different rites as it will judge proper for its own interest and welfare ; but from the very day on which such a principle prevails, Masonry will, in fact, cease to exist in America.'

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in their report of August last on this subject, say : 'The Grand Lodge of Mississippi affirms that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, being a cumulation of rites, cannot be properly recognized as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, and if it be not a Lodge of Ancient York Masons, none such is in existence in Louisiana ; and, therefore, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has jurisdiction over the Territory of Louisiana, and has power to grant charters within the latter State, for the establishment of Lodges of Ancient York Masons. Upon the simple affirmance of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and the denial of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, your committee are bound to regard the allegations of the former as not proven. For, since the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has been long in full correspondence with the various Lodges in the Union, and has been recognized and regarded, so far as we know, or have

been able to learn, as a legitimate association of Ancient York Masons, we feel constrained to give full force to the statement made by the officers of said Lodge, until it is disproved. This being the state of the case, as presented to this Grand Lodge, we feel constrained to declare our coincidence, in opinion and sentiment, with the committee of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and to declare that, from the present light before us, the power assumed and exercised by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in granting dispensations for the establishment of Masonic Lodges within the territory, under the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, is subversive of the general welfare and safety of our Order, and is in direct violation of the established usages and practices of the Masonic Fraternity throughout the world. It is a question of importance to the Fraternity, and as there *may* be facts connected with the case under consideration not known to your committee, we respectfully suggest the propriety of deferring any definite action in the premises until the next Grand annual communication, that further light may be had.'

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, at a quarterly meeting 7th September last, reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were accepted and adopted :

" '*Whereas*, At the annual meeting of this Grand Lodge, in June last, the committee on Foreign Correspondence reported certain resolutions to have been adopted by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, which resolutions, the committee expressed a hope the Grand Lodge of Mississippi would not act upon, except to rescind them, and deprecated the mischievous consequences which would inevitably result from their being put in practice—which report was approved and adopted by this Grand Lodge ; and

" '*Whereas*, Since said report was made, this Grand Lodge has received a communication from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, giving the information that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi had actually planted several Lodges in Louisiana, and that in consequence said Grand Lodge, in vindication of her just rights, adopted the following resolutions on the 21st of April, 1847 :

" '*Whereas*, It has come to the knowledge of this Grand Lodge, that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi has lately constituted several Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, in direct violation of the constitutional principles which regulate the jurisdiction of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, and in contravention of the 22d Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

" '*Resolved*, That Masonic communication be, and is hereby interdicted and forbidden, between the Masons of the first three degrees of this State, and the members of the said Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.

" '*Whereas*, It has been made known to this Grand Lodge, that W.

P. Coleman, a Master Mason, residing in the city of New Orleans, and sundry Master Masons, his associates, have assembled together in the said city of New Orleans, and opened a Lodge of Master Masons for the purpose of making Masons, and otherwise practicing Masonic rites, in violation of the 22d and 51st Articles of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

“*Resolved*, That the said W. P. Coleman, who pretends to act as Worshipful Master of the said Lodge, and his said associates, composing the same, be cited to appear before this Grand Lodge, at the next quarterly communication, to be holden on the fourth Saturday in June next, at seven o'clock, P. M., there to show cause why they should not be expelled from the Order, and deprived of the privileges of Masonry. And that, in the meantime, all Masonic communication between the said W. P. Coleman and his said associates before referred to, and the regular Masons of this State be, and the same is hereby interdicted and forbidden.

“*Resolved*, That Masonic intercourse is hereby interdicted and forbidden between the Masons of this State, and every collection or body of persons, who assume to hold Masonic Lodges within this State, without a dispensation or warrant of constitution from this Grand Lodge.’

“And, on the 17th of May following, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana adopted the following resolution :

“*Whereas*, A certain advertisement, published in most of the newspapers of this city, was brought to the particular notice of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, at its sitting of the fourteenth day of the third Masonic month, A. L. 5847 (14th of May, A. D. 1847), which document is in the following words : ‘*Masonic Notice*—On Monday, 31st May, 1847, the new Masonic Hall, at the corner of Baronne and Perdido streets, will be dedicated with the usual ceremonies. Regular Masons are invited to participate in the ceremonies of that occasion, of which a programme will, in due time, be published. A. J. Williams, W. H. Howard, committee of arrangements.’

“*Whereas*, The temple which is to be dedicated, pursuant to the advertisement just cited, is intended for the meetings of a pretended Lodge, said to hold a charter from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and the very formation of such a body is a flagrant infraction of Article 51 of the general regulations, by which it is expressly prohibited to any number of Masons to work together, or form a Lodge, without having previously obtained from this Grand Lodge a charter, warrant, or dispensation to that effect; and by which it is moreover provided, that any person convicted of such a contravention, shall be expelled from all the Lodges, by a decree of this Grand Lodge, and forever deprived of the privileges of Masonry.

“*Whereas*, There is a principle so universally recognized, as to

exclude hereafter any serious discussion on the subject, to wit : That the several Grand Lodges in the United States of America, as well as in the other parts of the globe, are the sole, supreme, and sovereign regulators of Masonry within the whole extent of the territory subject to their jurisdiction, and that any violation of this principle is an unjustifiable usurpation of power :

“ *Whereas*, By Article 22, of the general regulations, this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge has not only sanctioned the propriety and proclaimed the justice of this principle, but has actually expressly denied to itself the right of granting charters to Lodges located in foreign countries, wherein there exists a supreme Masonic authority, or in any of the States or Territories of the American Union, wherein there is a Grand Lodge :

“ *Whereas*, The same Article most emphatically declares, that this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge will not allow any foreign Masonic power, or any other Grand Lodge in the United States, to constitute Masonic Lodges, of whatever rite, within the State of Louisiana, and adds that, in the event of such an occurrence, the Lodge so constituted shall be held irregular, all its members expelled from the Order, and all communications which may have previously existed between this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and the authority which shall have so constituted within the State, immediately cease.

“ *Whereas*, On a very recent occasion, the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi arrogated to itself the right of granting warrants to constitute Lodges within this State, contrary to all usages, and to the best settled rules of comity, and also in open violation of the principle above referred to—a principle eminently calculated to preserve unimpaired that respect for the legitimate authority, that regularity of proceedings and uniformity of feelings, which are the most essential elements of the prosperity of the Craft ; and this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, sensible that she could not be so forgetful of what she owed to herself, as to suffer such a glaring encroachment upon her attributes and prerogatives to go unpunished, passed a resolution commanding all the Masons under her jurisdiction, under penalty of being deprived of their titles, qualities, and privileges, to break up and cease all brotherly communications with the said Grand Lodge, as well as with the members of the several bodies, assemblages, associations, or would-be Lodges that might form themselves, congregate, or work under its auspices, and at the same time pronouncing a total deprivation of their rights and expulsion from the Order against all Masons embraced in this last category.

“ *Whereas*, While, on the one hand, the good administration, harmony, and future welfare of the Craft within this State, the promoting of which is entrusted to this Grand Lodge, require that the resolution alluded to in the preceding paragraph, as well as the provisions of Article twenty-second and fifty-first of the general regulations, be carried

into effect in all their tenor ; on the other hand, justice commands that a fair warning shall be given to all persons interested, so that no one can have a right to plead ignorance of the penalty to which he might have made himself liable, were he to contravene the same ; that is to say, in order that those persons who have already formed or may have it in contemplation to form Lodges, or might work masonically under any other auspices but those of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, together with such regular Masons within this State as would be inclined to visit the said pretended Lodges, meetings, or associations, or keep up Masonic connections and communications with their members, may be made fully aware of the nature of the punishment which they would subject themselves to :

“ *Be it Resolved*, That not only is the resolution adopted by this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge against the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, maintained and ordered to be carried into execution in all its force and vigor, but it is hereby made applicable to every such Grand Lodge in the American Union, and other supreme Masonic authority located in any part of the world, that may have arrogated, or shall hereafter arrogate to itself the right of granting charters, warrants, or dispensations to establish and constitute Lodges within the limits of the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana—that is to say, within the territorial limits of this State ; therefore, it is expressly ordered to all and every one of the regular Masons, residing within the said limits, to break up and cease all fraternal intercourse with such Grand Lodge in Union, or any other supreme Masonic authority, as would be guilty of such a usurpation of power.

“ *And be it further Resolved*, That any Lodge already formed or constituted, or which may be formed or constituted hereafter, as well as any congregation of Masons that has already commenced working, or which shall work in future within this State, under any other auspices but those of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge—that is, by virtue of any charter, warrant, dispensation, or other constitutive title, be its denomination whatever it may, emanating from any Grand Lodge, Grand Orient, or other supreme Masonic authority, sitting out of the limits of Louisiana—shall be deemed, and is hereby declared to be in open rebellion against their legitimate authority, irregular, and without a legal existence ; and the persons composing it are hereby ejected from the pale of Masonry—expelled from all the regular Lodges, and forever deprived of their Masonic titles, and of all brotherly intercourse and communication with the members of the Fraternity.

“ *And be it further Resolved*, That all the regular Lodges, as bodies, as well as the Masons residing within this State, whether or not they belong to any particular Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, are hereby expressly prohibited from holding and maintaining any Masonic connection or intercourse with any pretended

Lodge, association, or assemblage of Masons embraced in the category contemplated by the preceding resolution ; and any infraction of the present provision shall be punished, if committed by a Lodge, by depriving that body from all the rights, benefits, and privileges resulting from its charter, which shall, *ipso facto*, become null and void ; and, if by one or more Masons, by ejecting him or them from the pale of Masonry, expelling him or them from all the regular Lodges, and by depriving him or them forever of all brotherly communication and intercourse with the members of the Fraternity, and of his or their Masonic titles.

“ *And be it further Resolved*, That the Masters and Representatives of the several Lodges sitting in this city, be and they are hereby requested and required to call a meeting of the same, respectively, within a delay which shall not exceed eight days, in order to lay before their members, and to make them fully sensible of the contents of these resolutions, and of the severity of the punishments to which they would expose themselves, were they to accept inconsiderately of the general invitation directed to all Masons to attend to the dedication of the pretended temple alluded to in the advertisement before mentioned ; or were they to keep and maintain any fraternal intercourse with associations of Masons stamped with irregularity. That, moreover, a copy of the said resolutions and preamble shall be transmitted and forwarded to each and every one of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge ; and finally, that the same shall be inserted in four of the newspapers published in New Orleans, having the most extensive circulation.

“ *And be it further Resolved*, That one thousand copies of these resolutions and preamble be printed and added to the report previously adopted by this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, to be forwarded and transmitted together with it, to all the Masonic bodies both in Europe and America.

“ Attested : New Orleans, May 17th, 1847.

“ By order of the Grand Lodge.

“ F. VERRIER, *Grand Secretary*.

“ Therefore, be it *Resolved* by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, That we most deeply and sincerely regret that any Grand Lodge in the United States has attempted to disturb the harmony heretofore existing between the several Grand Lodges of the United States, and thereby jeopardizing the unity of the great Masonic family throughout the world.

“ *Resolved*, That as we have heretofore recognized the Grand Lodge of Louisiana as the sole, supreme, and legitimate government of the symbolic degrees of Masonry in the State of Louisiana, so we shall continue to sustain her in all her rights and prerogatives as such.

“ *Resolved*, That we advise and request the Grand Lodge of Missis-

issippi to rescind and revoke any dispensations or warrants which have been granted under her authority to brethren in the State of Louisiana.

“ *Resolved*, That all Lodges planted in the State of Louisiana by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, or any other Grand Lodge than the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, established in the year 1812, are irregular Lodges, and as such cannot be recognized by us.

“ *Resolved*, That all intercourse between the Lodges and Masons of this State, and the Lodges of the State of Louisiana, not deriving their authority from the Grand Lodge of that State, is hereby strictly prohibited.

“ *Resolved*, That five hundred copies of the above preamble and resolutions be printed, and forwarded to all the Grand Lodges in the world, and to the Lodges of this State.’

“The committee of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, at its annual communication in October last, in their report, say :

“ ‘It now becomes the painful duty of your committee, to pass in review the original and present organization of our heretofore esteemed sister Grand Lodge of Louisiana—to whose age and experience it would seem we had a right to look for a bright example in the pathway to glory and renown—but whose singular departure from the ancient landmarks of the Order, as recognized in the United States, makes it the duty of every Grand Lodge not only to express their unqualified disapprobation of its conduct, but to withdraw all Masonic communication until it retraces its steps and resumes its once proud stand on the revered platform of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry.

“ ‘That the present organization of that Grand Lodge should have so long existed without being called in question by other Grand Lodges, cannot be accounted for by your committee, unless it be that for the last twelve or fifteen years, so little has been published by that body, as to leave the balance of the world ignorant of its proceedings. But we are now no longer in the dark—as its late difficulty with the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has caused it to make developments not to be misunderstood ; and as, in the opinion of your committee, a question is involved, threatening to destroy that peace and harmony which has marked the upward and onward course of our time-honored institution in the United States, your committee feel bound to call the attention of this Grand Lodge to a brief history of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

“ ‘In the year A. L. 5812, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was regularly established—P. F. Dubourgh, Grand Master—as your committee believe, and as that Grand Lodge declare—a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons (see third page, printed proceedings for April, 1847), and as such was fraternally acknowledged by all the Grand Lodges in the United States.

“ ‘It now appears, that as early as 5833, that Grand Lodge, forgetting its first love—in open violation of established usage in this country, and in manifest violation of good faith to its confederates—entered

into an arrangement with the Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Secret, thirty-second degree (see proceedings of January, page eleven), as follows :

“ “Brother J. H. Holland being Grand Master, in the year 1833, the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana solemnly declared to the Masonic world, that, always faithful to the sacred principles of our sublime institution, it has recognized, and does effectually recognize, the right which all Masons have to follow, for the conduct of their Masonic labors, such usages as are established for the different rites, within the true landmarks of the Order—there being no essential difference between them. Consequently, the Masons of Louisiana, wishing to establish in this State a sole and only centre of Masonic authority, regulating all the Lodges under its jurisdiction ; and that, under the denomination of a Grand Lodge duly incorporated by and for the State of Louisiana, the said Grand Lodge made with the Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Secret, thirty-second degree, a concordat, agreed and signed by both parties, in New Orleans, the fourteenth of January, 1833—stipulating that the Grand Consistory grants to the Grand Lodge the right and power that the said Consistory heretofore had, of creating and constituting within the jurisdiction of Louisiana, Lodges of the three symbolical degrees of the Scotch and Modern Rites. Therefore, the Grand Lodge does, since that time cumulate under its authority and jurisdiction the three rites—say, York, Scotch, and Modern Rites—to the general satisfaction of all the Masons under its jurisdiction ; they having ever been recognized as regularly constituted Masons by all the Grand Orients, Grand Lodges, and all the subordinate Lodges, under these three rites, overspread on both hemispheres, in correspondence with the Grand Lodge.”

“ On page thirteen, of the same proceedings, we find the following :

“ “Consequently the Grand Lodge, in the above mentioned sitting of the twenty-seventh June, 1846, has declared and proclaimed, that, following the example of the Grand Orient of France, in its Grand Council of Rites, it solemnly recognizes the Supreme Council of the Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, thirty-third and last degree, of the United States of America, sitting in New Orleans, as the sole legislature of the Philosophical Scotch Masonry in the United States of America.”

“ From the above extracts it will be seen, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has entered into a compact with an Order of Masons not known to any other Grand Lodge in the Union. While your committee will not *here* call in question the right of the Supreme Council of the Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, thirty-third, above referred to, to set up a control over the degrees belonging to that body—nor the right to declare the Grand Councils of the thirty-third, for the northern and southern divisions of the United States, long since *supposed* to be legally established, a mere assumption of power, inherent in, and properly

belonging to the Grand Council of Louisiana (the latter being the "supreme legislature for the United States of America"), we repeat, that it is not our province to gainsay any of these things ; for this would be assuming a power greatly above the power which creates us a committee. In like manner, we cannot conceive by what clause of the ancient constitutions, or Masonic usage, especially as understood and acknowledged in the United States, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana derives the right to proclaim, "that, following the example of the Grand Orient of France, in its Grand Council of Rites, it solemnly recognizes the Supreme Council of the Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, thirty-third and last degree, of the United States of America, sitting in New Orleans, as the sole legislature of the Philosophical Scotch Masonry of the United States of America ;" unless that Grand Lodge, composed of Master Masons, or Past Masters, at the most, has found some other way of acquiring Masonic light than is known to your committee ; and we sincerely trust, and confidently believe, that there is no other Grand Lodge in America who would entertain a proposition to take cognizance of a single degree above Past Master, much less to legislate for the thirty-third.

"On page four, of the proceedings in January, 1847, will be found the following :

" "Laws must be suited to the community for which they are made ; and some Masonic regulations might well be adapted to the meridian of Louisiana."

" "This doctrine, properly qualified, your committee will readily concede to be admissible ; but to suppose that local peculiarities can, in any instance, justify a departure from known established principles in our institution, is, to say the least, an acknowledgment that any innovations may be made, if the local condition of society seems to require them ; which would be repudiated by every Mason the world over. But let us see what are the fruits of this doctrine, as adopted by, and carried out in the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. On page five, they say :

" "A part of our brethren entertain predilections for the rites generally practiced on the continent of Europe. Those are what are called the French or *Modern Rites* and the *Scotch Rites*."

"On the same page they say :

" "But at the time it [the Grand Lodge of Louisiana] was formed, there were Lodges existing in New Orleans, under the sanction of the Grand Orient of France, which remained under that jurisdiction ; and others were subsequently constituted by that body : thus arose a conflict of authority, which was likely to create misunderstanding. To avert that evil it was agreed to unite those bodies, without the blending of those rites, to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge ; with permission to each of these subordinates to continue the use of its particular ceremonies, and with power in the Grand Lodge to allow them to cumulate either or both the other rites, provided they should keep them separate and distinct."

“By what clause in the Ancient Constitutions, or by what usage in the United States, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana derived the power to take under its control Lodges using ceremonies or names not known to Ancient Craft Masonry—especially as understood in this country—you committee cannot divine; neither can they imagine whence the authority to establish Lodges with power to confer degrees not tolerated by, or known to other Grand Lodges in the United States; much less to sanction and legalize, by solemn edicts, the practice of a rite which, so far from claiming to be Ancient Masonry, is openly declared by its recipients, and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, to be “Modern Masonry.”

“It now appears to your committee that some years since the Grand Lodge of Mississippi received evidence satisfactorily proving, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had so far departed from the ancient landmarks, as to forfeit all right to control Ancient Masonry, and issued a dispensation for a subordinate Lodge in that State; that afterwards, entertaining the belief that the said Grand Lodge of Louisiana would retrace her steps, withdrew said dispensation; this not being done, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, some two years since, sent a committee to New Orleans, for the purpose of learning the true condition of our institution there, and at the last Grand annual communication, declared by resolution, that there was no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana, expressed a willingness to issue dispensations to that State, and acting thereon, did issue dispensations to that jurisdiction. In reviewing the arguments of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in reference to this interference of jurisdiction, your committee fully concur with that Grand Lodge. While we believe that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi deserves the highest commendation for its early and bold stand in condemning the acts of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and erecting its standard in favor of uncontaminated Ancient Craft Masonry; that, as a faithful sentinel, guarding the portals to the fireside of our great family, it acted faithfully and well when it declared there was no longer a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana, still we believe the action of that body should have stopped here: for we hold that it is not in the power of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, nor of Mississippi and Missouri combined, to settle this question. By common consent on the part of the Grand Lodges of the United States, it is believed ever to have been the practice, to await the decision of at least a majority of the Grand Lodges, upon any mooted question, before any one could regard it as settled; and hence, while the Grand Lodge of Mississippi had the right to declare the non-existence (in its opinion), of a Grand Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry in Louisiana, that body erred in assuming jurisdiction in said State, until a concurrent opinion made its decision valid. But your committee are of opinion that for the same reasons the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has the least right to complain. First, because that body, in the face of this

well-known usage, assumed the responsibility of cumulating degrees, etc., etc., without even consulting the other Grand Lodges ; and second, by a reference to the extract above, it will be seen that they have legalized the act of the Grand Orient of France, in constituting Lodges in Louisiana subsequent to the formation of said Grand Lodge, and these, too, with the avowed right to practice Modern Masonry.

“The same report, page seven, in speaking of the reasons given by a subordinate Lodge for surrendering its charter, one of which was the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, says :

““It appears the declarations referred to by Poinsett Lodge have been followed up by action (by Mississippi Grand Lodge) which not only tends to destroy the harmony and well-being of Masonry in Louisiana, but goes directly to subvert and overthrow the organic law upon which the government of Masonry in the United States is founded.”

“Your committee clearly coincide in opinion with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in assuming jurisdiction over Louisiana at this time, has not acted in conformity to what is regarded to be a fundamental law in this country ; and only regret that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana did not assume and *maintain* this ground, when the Grand Orient of France, with even less ceremony, trampled upon its jurisdiction by constituting Lodges in the State after it was legally organized and acknowledged.

“Your committee call attention to the following extract, as the most plausible defense made by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, for the position it now occupies :

““The present regulation upon the subject is, that in issuing charters in future, they shall be issued for the formation of Ancient York Lodges, so called, but may contain the power of cumulating the other two rites ; but the Ancient York Rite shall always be considered the principal or national rite.”

“From this it would seem that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana claims that it has never departed from its original position as an “Ancient York Grand Lodge ;” that inasmuch as its subordinate Lodges are all York Lodges, so called, all is well, and in strict conformity with the usage in the United States, although it gives to said subordinates the power to cumulate two other rites not known or recognized by any of our Grand Lodges. Your committee are of opinion that if this doctrine be tolerated, and acted out, the safeguard to the maintenance and perpetuation of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry is prostrated ; and that harmony which has so long and so happily cemented our union, will know us no more forever. For it requires no great stretch of philosophy to conjecture, that the day is not distant when Lodges, acting upon the same latitudinarian principles, will admit any and all the multifarious degrees of the various secret associations of the world ; and all that would be required is to retain the name of *Ancient York*

Lodge. In this connection your committee are constrained to notice the language of the Grand Lodge of New York, which, after quoting the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, remarks as follows :

“ “ We hope the Grand Lodge of Mississippi will not act on these resolutions but to repeal them. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana exercised a laudable discretion in effecting harmony throughout her jurisdiction, by gathering within her fold all the Lodges in the State.”

“ “ Of course, your committee can only account for the position here taken by New York, by supposing that Grand Lodge had not received the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for January and April last. We cannot believe that New York can so far lose sight of the elevated ground it occupies, as the advocate of the pure and unadulterated principles of our Order, as to endorse the course pursued by Louisiana, with a knowledge of the facts staring them in the face ; and although that portion of the constitutional rules of the Louisiana Grand Lodge, published in the proceedings of our Grand Lodge last year, would seem to be sufficient to warn the Grand Lodge of New York that *all was not well* ; still do we hope that its “sober second thoughts” will lead to a more consistent view of the subject.

“ “ A few words more, in reference to this important subject, and your committee will have done. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana has interdicted Masonic intercourse between the Masons of Louisiana and the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. We sincerely regret that the great space already occupied, forbids further extracts from the proceedings of the Louisiana Grand Lodge, because these proceedings are the first received for many years, tending to give the action of that body, and because the entire matter is of such thrilling interest to the lovers of *true Masonry* that it is desirable it should be in the hands of every brother. The astounding and unparalleled doctrines there promulgated—the open and avowed disregard of established usage in the United States—the unblushing use of terms and titles unknown to any other Grand Lodge in America—that your committee can do no less than present this hasty and imperfect sketch, however unpleasant the task may be.’

“ The committee then say, with the facts before us, and *other light*, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

“ “ *Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri*, That all Masonic intercourse is hereby withheld from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and her dependent Lodges, until said Grand Lodge shall return to the plain and simple principles upon which it was originally established.’

“ “ *Resolved*, That all Grand Lodges in the United States are hereby fraternally requested to take such action in the premises, as to them may seem proper.’

“ Pending the adoption of this report, the printed proceedings of the

Grand Lodge of New York, in September last, were received, and read in open Grand Lodge. The said proceedings briefly review the difficulty between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi; and, to the astonishment of nearly all the members present, not only justify the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, but interdict Masonic intercourse with the members of any of the Lodges in Louisiana working under the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. Whereupon, Brother Mitchell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of New York has acted hastily and unadvisedly; and, we doubt not, will retrace its steps, when, by *proper Masonic means*, it learns ALL the facts which have driven this Grand Lodge to withhold the right hand of fellowship from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.’

“The committee also submit the following circular:

“‘TO THE GRAND LODGES OF THE FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE UNITED STATES:

“‘The undersigned committees, appointed by George Washington Lodge, Warren Lodge, Lafayette Lodge, Marion Lodge, Crescent City Lodge, and Hiram Lodge of Ancient York Masons, working in the cities of New Orleans and Lafayette, in the State of Louisiana, under dispensations from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, to prepare a statement of the causes which impelled the members of these Lodges to repudiate the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and to seek relief from their grievances, as Ancient York Masons, at the hands of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, respectfully report:

“‘That the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, originally a regular body of Ancient York Masons, has forfeited all claim to the allegiance of regular Ancient York Masons, by flagrant departures from the ancient *landmarks* of our Order in many essential particulars; insomuch, as to impose upon us the imperative duty of discontinuing all *Masonic communication* with that body.

“‘Amongst the departure from our ancient usages, and the *innovations in the body of Masonry*, introduced by that body, we enumerate the following:

“‘*First*—She openly exercises the power of granting charters, authorizing Lodges to work according to the *Scotch Rite*, and the *Modern* or *French Rite*—as they are called in her constitution—and admits the officers of such Lodges to sit and vote in her own body as members thereof; thus compelling Ancient York Masons to hold Masonic communication with persons whom we have ever been taught to consider as clandestine Masons; with whose usages and ceremonies we are unacquainted; and whom we cannot recognize as Masons at all by those *means* which are the *only lawful tests* of Masonic privileges.

“*Second*—She has, in her own words, “*accumulated* under her authority and jurisdiction, the *three rites*, say : *York, Scotch, and Modern*,” by virtue of power granted to her on the 14th of January, 1833, by what she calls the “Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Secret, thirty-second degree ;” a body, of whose very existence we, as Ancient York Master Masons, are ignorant ; but which body, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana tells us, possesses *supreme* authority over the *first three degrees* of Scotch and Modern Masonry ; and all this is done by a body *pretending* to be a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons !

“*Third*—She expressly permits the sons of Masons, of every rite, to be initiated into our mysteries before they become men of lawful age, to wit, when they are only eighteen years old.—Constitution, Article 4.

“*Fourth*—She has established in her body “*A Council of Rites*,” divided into two sections : one composed of three Scotch Rite Masons, and the other of three Modern or French Rite Masons, who have exclusive authority to inquire into all matters concerning those rites respectively ; thus excluding the Ancient York Masons of the Grand Lodge from participating in the action of that body on matters over which she, as a body, exercises jurisdiction ; while these Ancient York Masons are as ignorant of the work of this Council of Rites as we are of that of the Odd Fellows.—See Constitution, Articles 15 and 16.

“Moreover, this Council of Rites is appointed annually by the Grand Master, who must hence necessarily be both a Scotch and French, or Modern Mason, to be fully qualified for his office ; and hence it also follows that an Ancient York Mason, as such, is disqualified from being elected to preside as Grand Master of an Ancient York Grand Lodge. These principles are destructive of that *equality* which is essential to the continued existence of our *Ancient* (not Modern) and *unchangeable Order*.—Constitution, Articles 54 and 56.

“*Fifth*—She not only grants charters of three different kinds to three different *Rites* of Masons (as she calls them), but she grants charters to Lodges of Ancient York Masons, authorizing them to cumulate the Scotch and French Rites with their own, and to initiate, pass, and raise persons in the same Lodge, according to the ceremonies of all and each of said three rites ; thus in fact *blending* all three of the rites together ; and this is true, notwithstanding her formal denial of such blending of rites together.—See second Resolution, passed 27th November 1845.

“*Sixth*—She has interfered with the religious opinions, and wounded the consciences of many true Masons under her jurisdiction, and has changed one of our ancient usages by prohibiting the installation of the officers of the subordinate Lodges on St. John's day, unless that day happened to fall on a *Sunday*, and *requiring* such installation, in all

cases to be performed on a Sunday.—Amendment to Constitution, Article 63, adopted 27th January 1846.

“*Seventh*—She has violated the ancient Constitutions of the Order by prohibiting all public Masonic processions and ceremonies, even for the purpose of discharging the sacred duty of burying a dead brother, who has desired to be so interred.

“*Eighth*—She has destroyed the secrecy of the ballot-box by ordering that the member casting a negative vote shall state his reason to the Master of the Lodge, and curtailed a long established Masonic right by empowering the Master to reject the vote, if *he* does not deem the reason sufficient.—Article 68.

“*Ninth*—She has abridged the rights of the subordinate Lodges by ordering that no Master-elect shall be eligible to the Grand Offices, unless he has served a year as Master—by this means throwing the preponderance into the hands of the life members, since every Master may become such after one year's service.—Section 1, Article 7.

“*Tenth*—She has abridged the rights of the subordinate Lodges, by the admission of life members not being representatives, by means of which the representatives of subordinate Lodges are outnumbered on every question regarding their interests, and the whole power is thrown into the hands of those whose sole aim it is to aggrandize the Grand Lodge, and who often have no connection with any subordinate Lodge.—Section 1, Articles 7 and 8.

“*Eleventh*—She has abridged the privileges of the subordinate Lodges by requiring the country Lodges, when not represented by their officers, or a member of the Lodge, to choose a proxy out of the existing members of the Grand Lodge, and who shall be a resident in the city of New Orleans.—See Article 11, adopted 27th January, 1846.

“*Twelfth*—Worse than all this, she has permitted and encouraged in the subordinate Lodges, working under her jurisdiction, *and in her own body*, an innovation upon the body of Masonry, which it would be unlawful here to communicate ; a procedure not only at variance with our *first* taught duty as Masons, but wholly subversive of one of the fundamental principles upon which our sacred institution was founded, and its principal safeguard.

“Besides these, there are many other grievances and irregularities of which we have a right to complain, but which we *cannot* commit to writing, but which we *know* to be subversive of the *first principles* of our beloved Order.

“Your committee believe that the foregoing facts speak for themselves, and that the illegal measures of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana need only to be known to regular Ancient York Masons to be generally reprobated. And they indulge a hope that when the true state of Masonry in Louisiana shall be known to the different Grand Lodges of the United States, the action of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of

Mississippi will be approved, and that the Grand Lodge of New York will rescind the resolutions of the 7th September, 1847, and render justice to their oppressed, but true-hearted brethren of Louisiana, whose only offense is an uncompromising resistance to the introduction of any "changes in the body of Masonry," by any power whatever; and a fixed and steady determination faithfully to discharge all the solemn duties imposed upon them as Ancient York Masons, without being blended together against their consent, with any other societies, whether good or bad. And we do solemnly maintain that French or Scotch Rite Masons, as such, have no greater right to intermeddle with or govern us, than the Sons of Temperance, Odd Fellows, or Knights of the Red Cross have, however good those societies may be.

"All good societies should be sustained by all good men, but this forms no reason why any two of them should be united, cumulated, or blended together, particularly against the will of either.

"For the truth of the facts asserted in this report, we pledge our faith as Masons, and challenge a *personal* investigation of them by all regular and enlightened Ancient York Masons throughout the world; to whose judgment alone we are both bound and willing most cheerfully to submit.

"All of which is respectfully submitted, by committees of Warren, George Washington, Lafayette, Marion, Crescent City, and Hiram Lodges."

"After a full investigation of the whole subject, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved by the Grand Lodge of Florida, That it fully and heartily concurs in the views and reasoning contained in the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, at its annual communication in October last.

"Resolved, That all Masonic intercourse is hereby withheld from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and its subordinate Lodges, until said Grand Lodge shall return to the plain and simple principles upon which it was originally established.

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge does, nevertheless, most earnestly deprecate the hasty action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in this most delicate and momentous question of Masonic authority, without first conferring with the Grand Lodges in the United States for their united advice and action."

THE RIGHT OF A GRAND LODGE TO IMPOSE A MEMBER UPON A SUBORDINATE LODGE.

"The following circular is from the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, dated 'Grand East of Charleston, 12th April, A. L. 5847':

GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREEMASONS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

"GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }

"Grand East of Charleston, 12th April, A. L. 5847. }

"BRETHREN :—At a special communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina, held at Masonic Hall, Charleston, on Friday evening, 9th April, A. L. 5847, the Grand Master gave notice to the Grand Lodge, that the Worshipful Master of *Walalhalla Lodge*, No. 66, working in Charleston, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, had surrendered the warrant of constitution of said Lodge into his hands, accompanied by a communication from certain officers and members of said Lodge, protesting against the action of the Grand Lodge, and refusing to submit to its directions in relation to the restoration of F. Schneider and J. C. Blohme, to membership in said Lodge.

"Whereupon the following preamble and resolutions were offered, and unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"'WHEREAS, the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and certain members, being a majority of Walhalla Lodge, No. 66, have refused to submit to the mandate of this Grand Lodge, directing the restoration of F. Schneider and J. C. Blohme, to membership in said Lodge, and have surrendered the warrant of constitution thereof; *And whereas*, a minority of the members have protested against the action of the majority, and applied for a dispensation to elect officers, and a return of the warrant of constitution : therefore,

"'1. *Resolved*, That C. Brunner, Worshipful Master ; F. Meyer, Senior Warden ; D. A. Amme, Junior Warden ; and J. J. Boesch, C. Meyer, Christian Noelken, E. Vonderleith, J. W. Boesca, H. Heilahorn, John C. Dorbaum, Call Herling, and N. Boesch, members of Walhalla Lodge, No. 66, BE SUSPENDED from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, until they acknowledge their error and submit to the authority of this Grand Lodge.

"'2. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master be directed to grant a dispensation to those worthy brethren of Lodge No. 66, who have made an application in due form for the same, to elect new officers, and continue the labors of the Lodge, provided they will conform in every respect, to the ritual of the Ancient York Rite, as practiced in this jurisdiction ; and that the Grand Master be authorized to return to them the warrant of constitution, free from all expense, whenever the Grand Lecturer shall certify that the ceremonies practiced in the said Lodge are a correct transfer into the German language of those practiced under the authority of this Grand Lodge.

"'3. *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to all the subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction, and to every Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and that they be published in the different Masonic periodicals.'

"I have accordingly the honor of transmitting a copy of these proceedings, to the officers and members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, for their information and government in the premises.

"I remain fraternally,

"ALBERT G. MACKEY, M.D.,

"Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

"Your committee consider this a very important question, and it would seem that the action of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina has been against its own authority. Can a Grand Lodge impose a member on a subordinate Lodge against its will? In the *Ahiman Rezon* of South Carolina, it is declared that, 'Unanimity is essential to the well-being of every Lodge, and their own members are the most competent judges in this matter. If it were allowed that any foreign, or even

superior, jurisdiction might impose a factious or disagreeable member upon them, it might destroy their harmony, and would entrench upon their liberty, to the great injury, if not to the total dissolution of such Lodge.' And in the *Lexicon of Freemasonry* we find this authority : 'In the election of candidates, Lodges have recourse to a ballot of black and white balls. Unanimity of choice in this case is always desired and demanded ; one blackball alone, if it be accompanied with good reasons, of the sufficiency of which the Lodge shall judge, being sufficient to reject a candidate, and two having this effect, without the assignment of any reasons whatever. *This is an inherent privilege, not subject to dispensation or interference of the Grand Lodge*, because, as the ancient constitutions say : 'The members of a particular Lodge are the best judges of it ; and because, if a turbulent member should be imposed upon them, it might spoil their harmony, or hinder the freedom of their communication, or even break and disperse the Lodge, which ought to be avoided by all true and faithful.'

"These authorities appear so clearly against the action of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, in the case of Walhalla Lodge, No. 66 ; and the very evil which they are designed to avoid—in *breaking and dispersing the Lodge*—having so palpably occurred, your committee confess they have great diffidence in coming to the conclusion which this case would justify, when we consider the high character and standing of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, for wisdom and Masonic knowledge. We therefore forbear the expression of any decided opinion, until we hear more of the matter, not being disposed to question the justice of our brethren of South Carolina.

"The fourth Section of the tenth Article of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, is in these words : 'Revising or abrogating the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother Mason, shall not (although it restores him to all the privileges of Masonry), restore him to membership in the Lodge from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

"Your committee propose now to close their labors with a few extracts from the report of committees of other Grand Lodges, complimentary to the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, reviewing the last report of this Grand Lodge, say : 'The committee on Correspondence have made a most able, elaborate, and interesting report, the best we have seen, giving more general information of the Craft and its doings than any other. Your committee find sundry topics therein which they will notice—one having been already noticed. Your committee with pleasure see that the brethren in Florida display a high degree of precision in the use of terms and titles, and are disposed that things shall be done right there and elsewhere. A regard to propriety in these things is more manifest in the younger Grand Lodges than in many of the older ones.' They then go on to notice a senti-

ment expressed in that report, on which 'they hope the brethren in Florida will reflect and recant.' In another part of this report, that opinion has been reviewed and recanted in a manner we trust satisfactory to our brethren of Maryland, whose good opinion we highly value, not only for the complimentary notice which they have taken of our proceedings, but for the candor and true masonic spirit manifested in pointing out our errors, which they will always find us willing to correct, when we are made sensible of them.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, at its annual communication in August last, say : ' We are gratified to discover the rapidly extending influence and popularity of our Order in Florida. The report of the committee on foreign communication, *prepared by Brother Baltzell*, is one of the most interesting documents of the kind we have read. It is evidently the result of great labor, is prepared with skill, and contains an amount of information, in regard to the condition and prospects of the Fraternity in the United States, that cannot be found in any other document of the size that has come under our observation.' Your committee cannot withhold the expression of their gratification at witnessing the flattering notice of our Grand Lodge, and the state of Masonry in Florida, by our brethren of Kentucky, whose experience and Masonic knowledge we have always highly appreciated. The committee will take this occasion to remark, that although Brother George F. Baltzell is an officer of our Grand Lodge, and one of its most efficient members, and was present at our last annual communication, when the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was read and adopted, yet he was not a member of that committee, and drew up no part of that report ; it is entirely the work of the chairman of that committee, Gen. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and properly the father of Masonry in Florida, having been our first Grand Master.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, go on and say : ' The right to appoint *proxies* to the Grand Lodge, is declared by the Grand Lodge of Florida to be vested *exclusively* in the Master and Wardens of the Lodge. Your committee dissent from the principle here stated. If the power to appoint representatives be vested in the Lodge (as is admitted by the Grand Lodge of Florida), the failure of the appointees to discharge their duty, cannot, in our judgment, divest the Lodge of the right to be represented by a member of their choice ; nor can it, on the other hand, invest the Master and Wardens with a power which did not belong to them before such failure. We understand the Master and Wardens to be *ex-officio*, the representatives of the Lodge over which they preside. If they decline attending the Grand Lodge, the power of appointing their proxies belongs not to them, but to the members of the Lodge.'

"By the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, it is provided, that each subordinate Lodge shall have one representative, to be ap-

pointed by the Worshipful Master with the consent of the Lodge ; he must be a Master Mason, and a member of the Lodge he represents. The Master and Wardens are, *ex-officio*, representatives of their Lodge. But if they cannot attend the communication of the Grand Lodge, or any one of them, they can appoint a *proxy*, who is not required to be a member of their Lodge. Such is the plan of our constitution, and the benefit designed to be accomplished was, that in cases where the Master and Wardens, who are properly the representatives of their Lodge, from their remote situation from the Grand Lodge, could not attend a communication, to insure a representative to such remote Lodges, the Master and Wardens were authorized to appoint their *proxy* from the Master Masons of any other Lodge. But your committee confess that they are unable to perceive the force of the objections. They have always considered it a right of the Master Wardens to appoint their proxies.

"Several other Grand Lodges have noticed our report in a complimentary manner.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, in their report of June last, say : 'The Grand Lodge of Florida furnish nothing of general interest in her transactions of December, 1845, until we arrive at the report of the committee of Foreign Correspondence, in which we are informed of something which has been heretofore published by us, and which the Grand Lodge of Florida has been pleased to denominate "*unmasonic censure of the Grand Lodges of Alabama and Mississippi* :"' we are authorized to say, the *Grand Lodge of Florida*, as the report of the committee, was adopted by that body. We feel compelled to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to this denunciation ; and as it involves rights, principles, facts, and opinions of great moment to the Masonic Institution in the two hemispheres, we recommend this Grand Lodge to meet it as a subject worthy of calm investigation. As necessary to a full understanding of the question at issue, we quote the following extract from the transactions of the Grand Lodge of Florida. Speaking of the Grand Lodge of New York, they say :

" "We regret to notice the following unmasonic censure of the Grand Lodges of Alabama and Mississippi, in the annual address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master : 'I must call your serious attention to the deliberate decision made and published by two Grand Lodges in the United States, that it is *not* a necessary qualification of a candidate to be whole and perfect in body as well as in mind, in order that he may be received as a brother. As plain a fundamental principle as words can express, has been here solemnly and [deliberately set at naught, and with a mockery of pretended reasoning.'

" "We (the Grand Lodge of Florida), consider that the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is replete with good sense, and throws back the reproach of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, not by acrimony, but by argument. The com-

mittee, in their report, say: 'Masonry originated in an age of the world comparatively rude and barbarous; at a time when strength of body was more valuable than vigorous intellect. It was instituted by an association of men united together for the protection of physical labor. But even at this early period, their ties and obligations were fraternal. This made them solicitous to exclude from the Fraternity all who were likely to become burthensome, rather than useful, and consequently to require that initiates should be whole in body, as well as sound in mind. But the world has changed," &c.

"The Florida committee has omitted the remainder of the Mississippi report, and we have not the means of supplying it, which we particularly regret, as we are desirous of seeing the argument spoken of, and of ascertaining, if possible, what age of the world Masonry originated in, according to this new creed, neither of which can be gathered from the above extract. We had intended to have reviewed this question at some length, but not having the original document from Mississippi, we prefer leaving the subject under the special direction of the Grand Lodge, and to avoid extending our report to an unusual length, we prefer leaving the Foreign Correspondence reports of the Grand Lodge of Florida for 1845 and 1846, with the simple remark, that we have never seen, in the same compass, so many errors maintained, regarding Masonic constitutions, regulations and usages, as in the two documents before us.'

"We beg to refer the committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, to a former part of this report, where this subject is noticed under the proper head, and we trust satisfactorily to our brethren of New York.

"It is a deplorable fact, which may not be disguised, that in reviewing the opinions and arguments of others, often too little regard is paid to the use of *terms* and *epithets* which are calculated to give offense, when none is intended, and error is too often persisted in, and propagated from a pride of opinion, which will not acknowledge the truth when it is made manifest; not remembering that a wise man may err, but a fool only will contend against conviction. All this is wrong, and evinces the want of a true Masonic spirit, which should teach us to receive instruction, and hold our minds open to conviction, that we may improve in wisdom and knowledge. We must confess that we would have received it in much better spirit, if our more experienced and privileged brethren of New York had frankly pointed out the 'many errors' which we have committed in our last two reports, for the benefit of their brethren in Florida.

"We would gladly make copious extracts from the voluminous report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, rendered particularly interesting from an extensive Foreign Correspondence, if the length of this report did not forbid it.

"From the Grand Lodge of Vermont, your committee have only received a circular, announcing its reorganization, which we hail with

pleasure, and extend to her the right hand of fellowship as one of the oldest, most experienced, and well-tried sister Grand Lodges, whose organization completes the circle of our confederation.

"Your committee beg leave now to close this long, and they fear imperfect report, which they have encountered with an eye singly to the prosperity of the Fraternity.

"THOMAS BROWN, *Chairman*.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

This being the day appointed by the constitution for the election of Grand Officers, the Grand Lodge proceeded to their election, and after successive ballots, the following brethren were declared elected respectively, to serve for the ensuing twelve months, viz. :

M. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEORGE F. BALTZELL, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. THOMAS J. HEIR, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. JAMES WOODS, Grand Chaplain.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, January 13, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the installation of the officers.

Whereupon, M. W. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master performed the ceremony of installation in solemn ancient form, on the respective officers elected.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased then to make the following appointments, viz. :

R. W. JOHN CHAIN, of No. 16, District Deputy Grand Master for the Western District.

R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, of No. 11, District Deputy Grand Master for the Middle District.

R. W. GEORGE W. MACRAE, Past Grand Senior Warden of No. 14, District Deputy Grand Master for the Southern District.

R. W. DAVID E. DUNHAM, of No. 12, District Deputy Grand Master for the Eastern District.

R. W. HARRY R. TAYLOR, Past Deputy Grand Master of No. 6, Grand Lecturer.
W. ISAAO W. BROWN, of No. 1, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAMES J. PITTMAN, of No. 3, Grand Junior Deacon.
W. ALFRED A. FISHER, of No. 1, Grand Marshal.
W. J. E. SIMPSON, of No. 16, Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. P. J. FONTANE, of No. 14, Grand Pursuivant,
Brother FRANCIS WIENKEE, of No. 1, Grand Tyler.

Who were duly installed, in person or by proxy, in solemn ancient form.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock, P. M.

THREE o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

R. W. GEORGE W. MACRAE, Past Grand Junior Warden offered the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas, experience has impressed the belief that the Representative system between the Grand Lodges of the United States, has failed (so far as it has been attempted to be carried into effect), of its legitimate purposes and designs ; and that the Grand Secretaries of the respective Grand Lodges can perform all the duties of communication, which may be deemed essential to the rights and interests of Ancient Freemasonry, whether touching the ancient landmarks, or the eventful progress of our immortal institution,

Therefore Resolved, That so far as this Grand Lodge is concerned, the said system be, and the same is hereby discontinued and abolished.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to forward copies of this pramble and resolutions to the Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge has exchanged representatives, notifying them in a fraternal and respectful manner that this Grand Lodge has abandoned the system, which was adopted.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, January 14, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as yesterday.

The committee on Accounts made a report which was received and approved, and after the usual orders for the adjustment and payment of claims against the Grand Lodge, and the transaction of other local matters, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, until the next annual communication.

JOS. B. LANCASTER, *Grand Master*.

THOS. BROWN, *Grand Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 8, 1849.

M. W. THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Master*.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida was convened at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the 8th day of January, A. D. 1849, A. L. 5849, at 12 o'clock, M., it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge; but, in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, a full representation was not in attendance, and the Grand Lodge was not opened.

TUESDAY, January 9, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Secretary reported that there was a full representation of subordinate Lodges in attendance, whereupon the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida was opened in AMPLE FORM.

Grand Officers present:

M. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEORGE F. BALTZELL, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. THOMAS J. HEIR, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Secretary.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
W. ISAAC W. BOWEN, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JOSEPH A. EDMONDSON, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.
Brother JOHN W. EDGE, Grand Tyler.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, and JOHN B. TAYLOR, Past Grand Masters, M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Past Grand Master, and Past Masters of subordinate Lodges, members of the Grand Lodge.

And the representatives and proxies of the following subordinate Lodges, viz.:

Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Richard^d A. Shine, Worshipful Master ; Thomas Hayward, Senior Warden ; John B. Taylor, Junior Warden ; James S. Rust, Representative.

Washington Lodge, No. 2—Samuel B. Stephens, Worshipful Master ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3—George F. Baltzell, Worshipful Master.

Hiram Lodge No. 5—Andrew J. Lea, Representative.

Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Peter Hobart, Representative and Proxy for Worshipful Master ; Robert Myers, Proxy for Senior Warden ; B. S. Hawley, Proxy for Junior Warden.

Madison Lodge, No. 11—George W. Call, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

St. John's Lodge, No. 12—I. H. Bronson, Proxy for Worshipful Master ; W. A. Forward, Senior Warden.

Dade Lodge, No. 14—George W. Macrae, Representative.

Escambia Lodge, No. 15—Thomas Brown, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16—Thomas Douglas, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 17, U. D.—John M. Landrum, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Centreville Lodge, No. 18, U. D.—Christopher Fletcher, Worshipful Master ; David C. Wilson, Representative.

Marion Lodge, No. 19, U. D.—C. W. Downing, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, U. D.—J. W. Bryant, Worshipful Master ; C. W. Downing, Junior Warden.

On motion of Brother R. A. Shine, it was

“Resolved, That all Master Masons of good standing, visiting or residing in Tallahassee, are invited to attend the meetings of this Grand Lodge during its session.”

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to announce that he had appointed Brother John W. Edge, of Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 17, Grand Tyler of this Grand Lodge, in the place of Brother Francis Wienker, who had removed from this State.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then appointed the following standing committees, viz. :

On Accounts—Brothers CALL, HEIR, and WILSON.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers BRONSON, TAYLOR, and MYERS.

On Ways and Means—Brothers MACRAE, BRYANT, and EDMONDSON.

On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers BALTZELL, HAWLEY, and TAYLOR.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers SIBLEY, BALTZELL, BENEZET, FORWARD, and J. B. TAYLOR.

On Returns—Brothers SHINE, DYKE, and LANDRUM.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers STEPHENS, HOBERT, and LEA.

On Education—Brothers DOUGLAS, BRONSON, and MACRAE.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 10, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

M. W. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master, having asked to be discharged from further service on the committee on Foreign Correspondence, which was granted, R. W. George W. Macrae, District Deputy Grand Master for the Southern District of Florida, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

"Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered, to our worthy brother, General John P. Duval, for his long continued and valuable services as a member of the committee on Foreign Correspondence ; and that we sincerely regret that he finds himself required by circumstances to withdraw from that committee at this time.

The Grand Secretary submitted his account current, which was received, and referred to the committee on Accounts.

The Grand Secretary also made the following report, which was received and read :

"The Grand Secretary has the honor to report that he has forwarded the proceedings of the last annual communication to all the Grand Officers and subordinate Lodges in this State, and to all the Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada ; and that he has received the printed proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, viz. : North Carolina, Virginia, Vermont, Georgia, Massachusetts, Arkansas, Alabama, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Maryland, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maine, Louisiana, New Jersey, Mississippi, District of Columbia, New Hampshire, New York, Kentucky, Texas, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois, and the New Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of the District of Montreal and William Henry, and the Provincial Grand Lodge, Canada West, holden at Kingston—all of which I have handed over to the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

"It must be cheering to the heart of every true Mason, to witness the prosperous and triumphant position of our glorious Order in every part of this wide-spread confederation, which is manifested by a perusal of such a mass of valuable Masonic information.

"The Grand Secretary has further the honor to report that, since the last annual communication, there has been issued by authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, dispensations for the following Lodges :

"To the Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 17, at Eucheeanna, in the County of Walton.

"To Centreville Lodge, No. 18, in the County of Leon.

"To Marion Lodge, No. 19, at Ocala, in the County of Marion.

"To Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, at Jacksonville, in the County of Duval.

"He has also the honor to report herewith his account current, since the last communication.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*"

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made a report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws have had under examination the by-laws and proceedings of Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 17 ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18 ; Marion Lodge, No. 19 ; and Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, and beg leave to report that the by-laws of Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 17, with one or two exceptions noted, are unobjectionable. But we cannot say as much of their proceedings, which, we think, exceed all bounds of propriety in their work, the record of which is irregular, and too much extended. As the brethren of this Lodge have petitioned that the name given in the dispensation may be changed, before the charter is issued, to 'Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17,' we recommend that their prayer be granted.

"The by-laws and proceedings of Centreville Lodge, No. 18, are regular and unobjectionable.

"The by-laws of Marion Lodge, No. 19, with a few exceptions noted, are consistent with Masonic usage. The proceedings of this Lodge are informal and extended—much of the record of which properly belongs to the archives of the Lodge.

"The by-laws of Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, with few exceptions noted, are satisfactory to this committee. The proceedings are uniformly extended. The committee recommend to Nos. 19 and 20, more precision in the record of their proceedings.

"Your committee recommend that charters be issued to all these Lodges forthwith, without prejudice.

"The committee think proper, although not within prescribed duties, in view of obtaining uniformity of work, to recommend the appointment in each District or County of an Inspector, to visit each Lodge within the jurisdiction, for instruction and advice, and whose duty should be to report the progress and condition of each subordinate Lodge to the Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"GEO. F. BALTZELL, *Chairman.*"

Whereupon, it was ordered that the Grand Secretary issue charters to the following Lodges, now working under dispensation :

To Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17, in the County of Walton.

To Centreville Lodge, No. 18, in the County of Leon.

To Marion Lodge, No. 19, at Ocala, in the County of Marion.

And to Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, at Jacksonville, in the County of

Duval : and that the names of the officers, as specified in their respective petitions, be inserted in the charters.

Ordered, That the officers and representatives of said Lodges be now admitted to all the rights and privileges of members of this Grand Lodge.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon, at three o'clock.

MONDAY, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment, and the Grand Lodge resumed its labors.

Grand Officers present as in the afternoon.

Brother Hayward, from the committee on Returns, suggested an irregularity which occurred in the subordinate Lodges, in regard to the payment of dues to the Grand Lodge. That whilst some Lodges accounted for *all initiations*, and *all Master Masons* who were members of the Lodge during the Masonic year, other Lodges only account for the *Master Masons* and such *initiates* as had not been raised during the Masonic year. And asked instruction for the committee on this subject.

Whereupon, Brother Macrae offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, as the sense of the Grand Lodge, That the 3d Section of the 5th Article of the Constitution shall be so construed as to require each subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction, to pay and account for to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, at each annual communication, one dollar for each of its members (*except ministers of the Gospel*), being Master Masons ; and if any person shall have been initiated in any such Lodge within the Masonic year preceding a Grand annual communication, such Lodge shall be held to account for, and pay the further sum of one dollar for every such initiation, with the exception of ministers of the Gospel.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, to serve for the ensuing twelve months.

Whereupon, after the several respective ballotings, the following brethren were declared duly elected :

M. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS J. HEIR, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. SAMUEL BENEZET, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. CHARLES E. DYKE, Grand Chaplain.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment, and the Grand Lodge resumed its labors.

Grand Officers present as before.

On motion, Brother Stephens was excused from serving as the chairman of the committee on Unfinished Business, and Brother Douglas was appointed in his place.

On motion, the complaint preferred by Franklin Lodge, No. 6, against Escambia Lodge, No. 15, at the last annual communication, and which at that time was not fully acted on, was referred to the committee on Unfinished Business ; and, on motion, the amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, submitted at the last session, and published in the proceedings of the last communication, were referred to the same committee.

The following resolution was offered by Brother Douglas :

Resolved, That in future, the form of voting in the Grand Lodge, and in the subordinate Lodges, shall be by a show of hands instead of *viva voce*, as more conformable to ancient Masonic usage. *Provided*, That nothing herein required shall be so construed as to dispense with the rule of balloting, as prescribed by the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

Which was considered and adopted, and the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction are required to conform thereto.

Brother Douglas, from the committee on Unfinished Business, reported back the case of the complaint of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, against the action of Escambia Lodge, No. 15, and moved its recommitment to the committee on Propositions and Grievances, which was received and referred to that committee.

Brother Douglas, from the same committee, reported the amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, submitted by Brother Chain, of Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, at the last session, which were received and laid on the table.

Brother George F. Baltzell, Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, submitted a complaint against Jackson Lodge, No. 1, for an infringement of her Masonic jurisdiction, which was received and referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

The committee on Returns made a report in the following words :

"The committee on Returns have examined the returns and credentials from the following subordinate Lodges, viz. : Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; Hiram Lodge, No. 5 ; Franklin Lodge, No. 6 ; Madison Lodge, No. 11 ; St. John's Lodge, No. 12 ; Dade Lodge, No. 14 ; Escambia Lodge, No. 15 ; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16 ; Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17 ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18 ; Marion Lodge, No. 19 ; and Solomon's Lodge, No. 20 ; and beg leave to report, that they find them correct generally, except in regard to the subject of dues to the Grand Lodge. Your committee find that on this subject an irregularity

prevails, growing out of a diversity of opinion in regard to a construction of the Constitution. Some Lodges paying for all initiations, and all Master Masons, whilst other Lodges only account for their Master Masons, and such initiates in the Masonic year, as have not been raised at the close of such year. But as that difficulty has just been determined by the Grand Lodge, by the adoption of a resolution settling the rule of construction, your committee have only to report the Lodges which appear to be in arrears by that rule, viz.: Harmony Lodge, No. 3, for nine initiates during the last Masonic year, who were raised, and only accounted for as Master Masons, and for whom there is now due one dollar each for initiation. Hiram Lodge, No. 5, for seven initiations, now due seven dollars by the same rule of construction. Madison Lodge, No. 11, for eight initiations, and one member not accounted for, nine dollars; and Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17, for forty-six initiations, forty-six dollars. But the committee are well satisfied, that these deficiencies have been caused by a construction which the decision of the Grand Lodge has reversed, and therefore recommend that the returns be received, and the representatives and proxies of said Lodges be admitted to seats in the Grand Lodge, and that they be directed to notify their respective Lodges of said deficiencies, so that they may be accounted for to the Grand Lodge in their next annual returns.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOS. HAYWARD, *Chairman.*"

Which report was read and adopted.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment, and the Grand Lodge resumed its labors.

Grand Officers present as in the morning.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, which was received and ordered to be read, and after the reading had progressed a few pages, a discussion occurred, and on motion the reading was suspended and the report laid on the table for the present.

The committee on Propositions and Grievances made a report on charges preferred by Clement Brown, against Escambia Lodge, No. 15, which has been referred to that committee, viz.:

"The committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred two letters from Clement Brown, one dated eighth June, 1848, addressed to this Grand Lodge, and the other dated twenty-ninth December, 1848, and addressed to the Grand Secretary, both complaining of the conduct of Escambia Lodge, No. 15, beg leave to report that they have examined said letters, and find that they contain charges of a grave import, and of highly unmasonic conduct on the part of Escambia Lodge. They

charge, not only that said Lodge has been guilty of arbitrary and unjustifiable conduct towards the said Brown, who claims to be a member of said Lodge; but also gross violation of the Constitution and usages of Masonry. These complaints are of such a character, as to demand a strict and prompt investigation; and it is due alike to the character of Escambia Lodge as to the cause of Masonry, that the matter should be fully investigated, in a legal and proper manner; and to that end, they think that the said Lodge should be cited at once to appear and answer the complaint, to the end that such further proceedings may be had as may be proper, and recommend the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Secretary furnish to Escambia Lodge, No. 15, a copy, or the substance of the charges preferred, and that he cite and admonish the Worshipful Master and Wardens of said Escambia Lodge to appear before this Grand Lodge by her proper representatives or proxies, at the earliest opportunity, to answer said charges.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"I. H. BRONSON, *Chairman.*"

Which was read and adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

"The committee on Education have had that important subject under consideration, and beg leave to report, that on inquiry, they find that this Grand Lodge has now no funds which can properly be appropriated to this subject; and while they believe that there is no other mode by which so much good can be accomplished, at the same cost, as in the education of the rising generation, and in common with some of their more enlightened brethren, hold that 'it especially devolves upon the Masonic Fraternity, as a sacred duty, growing out of the principles of their institution, to advance, by every means in their power, the cause of education, and particularly to educate those of our household.'

"Your committee have to regret that they are not in possession of such information as would justify them in recommending any general system in regard to the subject; nor have they any data by which they can ascertain what number of destitute children of deceased Masons there may be within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; or what number of children of such Masons there may be, if any, whose parents are living here unable to teach, or send them to school; or what means the respective Lodges possess, or could procure, that might properly be applied to this object.

"Your committee, therefore, deem it best to refer this matter to the several subordinate Lodges, to whom indeed, under any circumstances, you committee believe it would most properly—primarily at least—belong, and to urge upon them immediate attention to, and a strict performance of the high and solemn duty of providing for the education of such children, as far as their means and resources will permit.

"Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be, and they are hereby required to take immediate measures to ascertain the number of children of Master Masons destitute of the means of education, who are residing within the limits of their respective jurisdictions; and to adopt such measures as may be in their power to cause them to be sent to school, or otherwise properly educated; and that they report to this Grand Lodge, at its next Grand annual communication, the number of such children of each class, and what said Lodges have done in compliance with the resolution.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOMAS DOUGLAS,
"I. H. BRONSON,
"GEORGE W. MACRAE, } *Committee, &c."*

Which was read and adopted.

The committee on Accounts made the following report, which was received, read, and adopted :

"The committee on Accounts, to whom was referred the report and accounts of the Grand Secretary, have examined the same and find the accounts correct, and supported by proper vouchers ; and that the Grand Secretary has paid over to the Grand Treasurer all moneys which came to his hands prior to the commencement of this Grand communication.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"GEORGE W. CALL, *Chairman.*"

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow, at seven o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, January 12, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment, and the Grand Lodge resumed its labors.

Grand Officers present as before.

On motion of Brother Douglas, the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was taken from the table, and the reading resumed, and after some progress therein, the reading was suspended, and Brother Duval offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the committee on Foreign Correspondence have further time to report ; and that hereafter the reports of said committee be printed in the recess of the Grand Lodge, and laid before the members on the first day of each annual communication, for their consideration."

And on motion, the said resolution was divided, and the question being taken on the first part thereof, the same was adopted. Which allows further time to the committee to report.

And the question then occurring on the residue of the resolution, the same was rejected.

On motion of Brother Douglas, the amendments to the constitution, which had been laid on the table, were taken up, and after consideration upon those submitted by Brother Chain, of Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, the question was taken, and they were rejected.

The question was then taken on the amendments proposed by a select committee at the last session, to "strike out the whole of the ninth Section of the eighth Article," which is in these words : "When the deformity of a candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of the Craft, the admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of Freemasonry," and the same was adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

"The committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the subject of the protest or complaint of Franklin Lodge, No. 6, against Escambia Lodge, No. 15,

in regard to the action of Escambia Lodge, in initiating, passing, and raising Francis Kopman, from its jurisdiction, beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the matter above referred to, and from the proofs and papers before them, it appears that Francis Kopman, a citizen of Apalachicola, residing there and within the jurisdiction of Franklin Lodge, was initiated, passed, and raised by Escambia Lodge some time in the year 1847, without any notice to, or knowledge of the same by Franklin Lodge, and without their consent, and without any sufficient reason to justify such an act on the part of Escambia Lodge. And your committee are of the opinion that Escambia Lodge acted incorrectly in so doing, and is liable to censure; but inasmuch as it appears on behalf of Escambia Lodge that it acted under the impression that said Kopman was about to leave Apalachicola and settle in Pensacola, where he had been raised, and where his parents resided; that he bore a good character, had many acquaintances, and was desirous of becoming a Mason there, where he was well known; and inasmuch as there is no charge made that he was *not worthy*, or that Escambia Lodge intentionally designed to violate the constitution and rules of Masonry—your committee believe that although there was hasty and unadvised action in this matter, yet they think that further prosecution of this complaint is not now required for the good of Masonry, except to admonish our brethren of Escambia Lodge to be more careful for the future. And we more readily come to this conclusion, because we are assured by our brethren of Franklin Lodge, that they have no disposition to press this complaint to a vote of censure against their brethren of Escambia Lodge; but on the contrary, manifest a willingness that the matter may be in any way disposed of, which shall most conduce to the harmony of the Craft, and to the preservation of the ancient landmarks of the Order.

"The committee, therefore, recommend the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That, although the Grand Lodge is of the opinion that Escambia Lodge acted improperly in this case, yet it is not disposed to pass any direct vote of censure, under all the circumstances, upon Escambia Lodge, but recommend to her, greater circumspection in future.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary transmit a copy of the foregoing report and resolution, to the Worshipful Masters of Escambia Lodge and Franklin Lodge.

"I. H. BRONSON, *Chairman*."

Which was read and adopted.

The Grand Treasurer made the following report, which was read and adopted:

"The Grand Treasurer has the honor to report that he has received from the Grand Secretary the sum of seventy-three dollars and thirty-nine cents, being the balance remaining in his hands at the end of the last communication, as reported by the committee on Accounts. Also, the sum of seventy-four dollars and fifteen cents, which subsequently came to his hands, as per report of the committee on Accounts, at the present communication, making the total sum of one hundred and forty-seven dollars and fifty-four cents received from the Grand Secretary since the last annual communication.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Treasurer*."

On motion of Brother Landrum, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That, whereas there exists great inconvenience to the Craft and Lodges situate on the borders of the States of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida, in their fraternal intercourse—the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge is hereby directed to open a correspondence with the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of Alabama and Georgia, for the purpose of entering into such reciprocal arrangements as may be calculated to remove the inconvenience complained of, without an infringement of our:

respective jurisdictions, and report the result of his negotiations to the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge."

Brother Shine, from the committee on that subject, submitted the following preamble and resolution, which were read and adopted :

"Whereas, by a contract made with the Principal of the Academy in this city, the room under the Masonic Hall was rented to him as a school-room, for the sum of seventy-five dollars per annum, to be applied to the education of such poor children as the committee should select to be sent to said school :

"Be it therefore Resolved, That Jackson Lodge, No. 1, be authorized to appoint a committee to act jointly with the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, to carry out the objects and intentions of said contract."

Brother Heir, from the committee on Accounts, made the following final report :

"The committee on Accounts have the honor to make their final report on the accounts of the Grand Secretary.

"It appears from the returns of the subordinate Lodges, that the Grand Secretary has received from the respective Lodges the following sums, viz. :

" From Jackson Lodge, No. 1, the sum of	\$29 00
" Washington Lodge,* No. 2, the sum of.....	37 00
" Harmony " " 3, " " ".....	37 00
" Hiram " " 5, " " ".....	34 00
" Franklin " " 6, " " ".....	45 00
" Madison " " 11, " " ".....	32 00
" St. John's " " 12, " " ".....	48 00
" Dade " " 14, " " ".....	55 00
" Escambia " " 15, " " ".....	46 00
" Santa Rosa " " 16, " " ".....	25 00
" Eucheeanna " " 17, " " ".....	56 00
" Centreville " " 18, " " ".....	15 00
" Marion " " 19, " " ".....	29 00
" Solomon's " " 20, " " ".....	14 00

"Amounting in the aggregate to the sum of..... \$502 00

"And the committee recommend the payment of the following sums :

" To the Grand Secretary for his salary,	\$50 00
" " Grand Tyler for his services,.....	20 00
" " Same, advanced for wood and candles,.....	5 00
" " Grand Secretary to defray postage,.....	5 00
	<hr/> \$80 00

" Which will leave in his hands, to be paid over to the Grand Treasurer, the sum of..... \$422 00

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

" THOS. JEFF. HEIR, *Chairman.*"

Which was read and approved.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A. M.

* Washington Lodge, No. 2, made returns after this report was made.

SATURDAY, January 13, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called from refreshment, and the Grand Lodge resumed its labors.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

Brother Myers, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the following report on the complaint preferred by Brother Geo. F. Baltzell, Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, against Jackson Lodge, No. 1 :

"It appears to your committee, after examining into all the facts before them, that the cause of complaint in this case is, that Jackson Lodge, No. 1, raised to the degree of a Master Mason, Daniel J. Smith, a Fellow Craft Mason, from the jurisdiction of Harmony Lodge, No. 3. But it further appears to your committee, that a dispensation was first obtained from the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida, authorizing Jackson Lodge to confer the degree of a Master Mason on Brother Smith, and that the circumstances which rendered this step necessary were of an urgent and peculiar character. That Brother Smith's residence was about fifty miles from Mariana, where Harmony Lodge is situated. That he had received the Fellow Craft's degree in Harmony Lodge, No. 3, and had several times attended, for the purpose of obtaining the Master's degree, but had failed to meet a Lodge. That he was in attendance on the General Assembly at Tallahassee, as a Senator from the Counties of Washington and Calhoun, and for several reasons was desirous of receiving the degree whilst here. That the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master was present when the degree of Fellow Craft was conferred on him in Harmony Lodge : and under all the circumstances, was willing to grant a dispensation for him to receive the degree of a Master Mason in Jackson Lodge, which was done, and the fee ordered to be transmitted to the Secretary of Harmony Lodge. Your committee, therefore, are of opinion, that Jackson Lodge was justifiable in obeying the mandate of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master ; and the only question to be determined is the authority of the Deputy Grand Master to grant such a dispensation, which your committee will not here undertake to determine, although they think the right has not been questioned.

"Your committee, therefore, recommend that the complaint preferred by Brother Geo. F. Baltzell, Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, against Jackson Lodge, No. 1, be dismissed.

"ROBERT MYERS, *Chairman.*"

Which was read adopted.

A report from Brother John Chain, District Deputy Grand Master for the Western District, was received and read, but no action on the same being deemed necessary at this time, it was ordered to be filed.

On motion, the Grand Secretary was directed to procure a collar and jewel for the Grand Chaplain, and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the cost of the same.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :

R. W. JOHN CHAIN, of Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, District Deputy Grand Master for the Western District.

R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, of Madison Lodge, No. 11, District Deputy Grand Master for the Middle District.

R. W. GEORGE W. MACRAE, of Dade Lodge, No. 14, District Deputy Grand Master for the Southern District.

R. W. D. R. DUNHAM, of St. John's Lodge, No. 12, District Deputy Grand Master for the Eastern District.

R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHNS, of Washington Lodge, No. 2, Grand Lecturer.

W. ISAAC W. BOWEN, of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. J. M. LANDRUM, of Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17, Grand Junior Deacon.

W. A. A. FISHER, of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, Grand Marshal.

W. GEO. W. CALL, of Madison Lodge, No. 11, Grand Sword-Bearer.

W. P. J. FONTANE, of Dade Lodge, No. 14, Grand Pursuivant.

Brother JOHN W. EDGE, of Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers elected and appointed in solemn ancient form.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Brother Shine moved the following amendment to the Constitution, which was seconded, and ordered to be published :

In the 7th Section of the 5th Article, after the word " given " in the fourth line of the Section, strike out the words, "*by examination in open Lodge.*"

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM, in peace and harmony.

JOS. B. LANCASTER, *Grand Master.*

THOS. BROWN, *Grand Secretary.*

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 14, 1850.

RICHARD K. CALL, *Grand Master*.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, was convened at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, the 14th day of January, A. D. 1850, A. L. 5850, at seven o'clock, P. M., it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS BROWN, Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS J. HEIR, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. CHARLES E. DYKE, Grand Chaplain.
W. ISAAC W. BOWEN, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAMES S. RUST, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.
Brother A. H. LINDSEY, Grand Tyler.

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Master ; R. W. S. S. SIBLEY, Past Deputy Grand Master, with members and visitors.

The Grand Secretary reported a full representation of subordinate Lodges, whereupon the Grand Lodge of Florida was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The following Lodges were duly represented :

Jackson Lodge, No. 1—John B. Taylor, Worshipful Master ; James S. Rust, Senior Warden ; S. S. Knight, Junior Warden ; R. B. Hilton, Representative.

Washington Lodge, No. 2—J. M. W. Davidson, Worshipful Master.

Hiram Lodge, No. 5—Thomas J. Heir, Worshipful Master ; W. S. Dilworth, Representative.

Franklin Lodge, No. 6—George S. Hawkins, Representative and Proxy for Worshipful Master and Senior Warden.

Madison Lodge, No. 11—D. S. Graham, Proxy for Representative.

St. John's Lodge, No. 12—I. H. Bronson, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Escambia Lodge, No. 15—John P. Duval, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17—D. K. McDonald, Senior Warden.

Centreville Lodge, No. 18—R. K. Call, Worshipful Master ; C. C. Fletcher, Senior Warden ; William N. Taylor, Junior Warden ; D. C. Wilson, Representative.

Marion Lodge, No. 19—Thomas Douglas, Proxy for Senior Warden.

Solomon's Lodge, No. 20—Thomas Douglas, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

Gee Lodge, No. 21—Samuel Boardman, Worshipful Master ; Jesse Coe, Past Grand Master, Representative.

Hamilton Lodge, No. 22—A. G. Johnson, Representative.

Newport Lodge, No. 23—W. W. Maund, Worshipful Master.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master delivered the following address :

ADDRESS OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.

*"Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida:—*The regular and unerring march of time has brought round another year in man's eventful history, and we have another opportunity afforded us of meeting in Grand communion, and to assemble around our sacred altar, to offer up our solemn devotions to Almighty God, the Grand Architect of the Universe ; and to adore and praise His holy name, for His merciful Providence dispensed to us, and our beloved land of flowers and sunshine, through the year that has just passed. For, whilst he has—in His ways, that are dark and hard to find out—permitted the Destroying Angel to visit a large portion of our country with death and desolation, we have been the objects of His especial care, in the blessings of health and an abundant reward of our labors, with fruitful seasons.

*"Brethren, we have lived in an eventful age—but the past year, which closes one-half of the nineteenth century, has been a year of remarkable incidents and events, as well in the old world as the new. Whilst Hope points us to the future, Wisdom admonishes us to look back upon 'hours that have fled,' to see wherein we have erred or acted wisely, wherein we have done good, or inflicted wrong on ourselves or our neighbors. Eighteen centuries and a half have now past off in the race of time, that never can be recalled since the advent of the Messiah, in whom, as the *Lion of the tribe of Judah*, we are taught to hope for a happy immortality, beyond the dark and gloomy confines of the grave.*

"We know, my brethren, that the forerunner of the Saviour, and his beloved disciple, were both eminent patrons of Masonry—and that, through all ages of Christianity down to the present day, the most

distinguished benefactors of mankind have been members of our Order. But Masonry interferes not with man's religious or political opinions. The lessons of morality which it teaches are comprised in our duty to God, our neighbor, and ourselves ; and are as universal and unchangeable as the attributes of Deity itself. In Masonry, 'there is no new thing under the sun—the thing that hath been, it is that which shall be,'—and in every country and clime, where civilization prevails, from the beginning of time, the principles of true Masonry have always been the same. We claim that the principles of Masonry began with the creation of the world : 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ;' and when the 'Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters,' and chaos was reduced to order, then was established the elements of Masonry—when 'God said let there be light, and there was light,' and 'the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy,'—then were displayed the elements of Masonry, in the magnificence of the Universe, and the glory and splendor of creative power. When God formed man in His own image, and breathed into him the breath of life, and unfolded to his perception the laws of matter and motion, and presented to his view their beauty, harmony, and symmetry, then the principles of Masonry, as a divine gift from Heaven, were stamped upon his heart by the Grand Architect of the Universe ; which, after his fall and expulsion, followed him in his pilgrimage, as a lamp to his feet, to guide his steps, and as the handmaid of religion, to elevate his mind to exalted conceptions of the infinitely wise and glorious Author of his being, whose laws require of him the offices of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

"But, brethren, this occasion will not permit me to give even a glance at the history of Masonry, from its foundation, through the Patriarchial ages to the Christian era, and thence down to the present time. A learned member of the Order, of the last century, says : 'From the commencement of the world, we may trace the foundation of Masonry. Ever since symmetry began, and harmony displayed her charms, our Order has had a being. No art, no science preceded it. In the dark periods of antiquity, when literature was in a low state, and the rude manners of our forefathers, withheld from them the knowledge we now so amply share, Masonry diffused its influence. Thus, science unveiled, arts arose, civilization took place, and the progress of knowledge and philosophy gradually dispelled the gloom of ignorance and barbarism.' And to borrow the beautiful and expressive language of a report of a sister Grand Lodge : 'To the man of science, the study of Masonry opens a wide and useful field, and especially to him "who points to Heaven and leads the way." Masonry, like the flaming cross that burst on the startled vision of Constantine, has emblazoned on it the same truthful inscription. The scientific Mason finds, on the century-enduring monuments of the "farthest end," on the ruins of Balbeck ; in

the temples and pyramids of Egypt ; and even in the book of the law and the testimony, the mystic symbol of the lodge-room ; the universal and unchanging language of the Craft.' And to the *enlightened*, the principles of our Order are shadowed forth in that great luminary of the Craft, the Holy Bible, from the day that God sent forth man out of the garden of Eden, to till the ground, which was cursed, for his sake, to the present day of Christian light and knowledge.

"Since the last Grand annual communication, I have granted dispensations for three Lodges in this State—one to be located at Chattahoochee, in the county of Gadsden ; one at Bellville, in the county of Hamilton ; and one at New Port, in the county of Wakulla. I have also granted a dispensation to W. Gregory Yale, Master of Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, of Jacksonville, East Florida, to establish a Lodge in California. The talents, high standing, and Masonic character of Brother Yale justify the belief that the Craft in Florida will be well represented in our new Territory on the Pacific.

"The brethren of Madison Lodge, No. 11, prompted by the most laudable and praiseworthy spirit, have formed a plan of instituting a seminary of learning, to be located at Madison, and to be under the superintendence of the brethren of that Lodge, and applied to me for my sanction and encouragement, which I most cheerfully granted ; and I hope they will succeed to the full extent of their expectation, and that all the subordinate Lodges in this State will follow the example, which they have so commendably set, and which is so well calculated to reflect credit upon the institution of Masonry in this State.

"I have recently received a circular letter, from the Secretary of the 'Washington National Monument Society,' addressed, 'To the officers and members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida,' giving an account of the progress which has been made in the work, and asking for 'such periodical contributions' as this Grand Lodge may think proper to give towards its completion. This circular is submitted to the consideration of the Grand Lodge, with a full confidence that we all partake of the general desire and solicitude, to see the completion of this monument of a nation's gratitude, and will joyfully contribute our mite towards its accomplishment.

"In connection with this subject, I have the pleasure to inform you, that in compliance with an invitation to all the States of this Confederation, 'to furnish a block of marble, or other stone, a production of its soil—so that each State may be properly represented in the Monument,' I have succeeded, as the Executive of this State, in procuring a very suitable native block of limestone, from the quarries near St. Marks, which will be forwarded to Washington City, as the representative of Florida, in the monument now in progress of erection, to take its position with all the other States of the Confederacy, and when they shall become cemented together in this great work, may they be symbolical

of the bond which binds these States in a Union, which shall be as enduring as the memory of its great Father and Founder.

"I have received from R. W. John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, a work of more than three hundred pages, entitled the *Masonic Text-Book*, compiled and prepared by Brother Dove, by order of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and under its supervision ; and accompanying it, a circular letter, explaining the object and design of the work, with a copy of resolutions, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, viz. :

" *Resolved*, That a copy of the *Masonic Text-Book* be presented, respectfully, to each of the Grand Lodges of the United States.

" *Resolved*, That any Grand Lodge in the United States, if she shall think fit, may, on application, be invested with the copyright of the same for her jurisdiction. And he says : ' That they may understand the object intended to be accomplished, permit me to ask an attentive perusal of it, and thorough investigation and criticism of its several parts, as enumerated in the preface, and communicate to me the result of their deliberations.'

"This duty I have performed, with as much deliberation as my official duties would allow ; and as far as I am capable of judging, I esteem it a valuable work, and wish that every Lodge under this jurisdiction could have it, and that every Mason would read and understand it.

"I would recommend that it be referred to a special committee, to be examined and reported upon, for the better information of this Grand Lodge.

"At our last annual communication, the committee on Foreign Correspondence had further time allowed them to report, and the Grand Lodge, having closed its labors before that duty was performed, there was consequently no report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence published in the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge. I understand that report will be made to the present communication.

"The old committee on Foreign Correspondence, having, at their own request, been relieved from that duty, a new committee was appointed, the chairman of which—except the Grand Secretary—only resided in this city, and during the greater part of the year he has been absent from this State. There was, therefore, no committee to take charge of the Foreign communications as they came to hand, and they were turned over by the Grand Secretary to me, for examination and report. This duty I have endeavored to perform, as well as my public duties would permit. But, brethren, if I had the whole year at my command, to devote to this duty, and a much larger share of ability than I possess, I could not in this address give you anything like an adequate idea of the vast amount of valuable Masonic information which this correspondence contains, embracing the proceedings of some thirty Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada. I can only, therefore, bring to your consideration, some of the most prominent and important

subjects which have engaged their attention, and rejoice with you in this evidence of the prosperity and triumph of our glorious and Ancient Order, in every portion of this wide-spread land of free institutions, over ignorance, superstition, and fanaticism.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine, in a beautiful and eloquent address, conceived in the true Masonic spirit, congratulates the brethren that they had met 'under so favorable circumstances, that everywhere, throughout the length and breadth of our noble State, the sound of the gavel is heard, cheering a noble band of faithful craftsmen, ever diligent in the duties of their responsible stations, and ever ready to exhibit specimens of their skill, which will command the approbation of the skillful craftsman of every clime, and stand the test of the Grand Overseer's Square.' He then says: 'I perceive that the decisions of this and some other Grand Lodges, that a *maimed man* is not in all cases debarred the rights and benefits of Masonry, is freely and rather severely commented on by some Masonic writers. It may be judicious in this Grand Lodge to review their action in the premises, and see if there be anything in the practice that will not stand the test of true Masonic light. Yet with all due deference, I can but believe that these writers are losing sight of the more weighty matters of the law, as laid down in the great light of Masonry, while they discourse so profoundly upon what are mere non-essentials, and which would never have had existence but for the operative character of Ancient Masonry;' and then goes into an ingenious course of argument, prompted by the finest feelings of our nature, and springing from the goodness of a heart anxious to seize on every occasion 'to sooth the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and restore peace to their troubled minds;' and asks, 'how can we consistently reject from our communion one whose only demerit is the loss of a limb, not absolutely necessary to his instruction in Masonry, yet rendering him still more an object claiming our kindly sympathies.' I would respectfully ask our amiable and enlightened brother if his arguments, carried out to their full consequences, would not accomplish more than he designs? Should our sympathies be less alive towards a blind or a deaf man, or one who has lost two limbs? If we are to be governed by the feelings of our heart only, then the greater the maiming the stronger should be our sympathies, and the stronger their claim for admission. The Grand Lodge of Florida adopted such a provision in her constitution, but more mature reflection, and more light reflected from our sister Grand Lodges, caused it to be stricken from our constitution, and I am sure our enlightened brethren of the Grand Lodge of Maine will not be behind us in reverence for 'the ancient landmarks of the Order.' *'My son, remove not the ancient landmarks which thy fathers have set.'*

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master, and also the Corresponding

Committee, regret that no proceedings for the last year have been received from the Grand Lodge of Florida, and some other Grand Lodges. I assure our esteemed brethren that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida have been regularly forwarded to all the Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada ; and we also regret that any of them should have failed to get to hand.

"The able address of the Grand Master, and reports of the Corresponding Committees, of all the Grand Lodges of the United States and Canada, concur in their ardent accounts of the prosperity of Masonry in every part of this continent ; and of the harmony and good feeling that prevail generally in regard to the ancient landmarks and regulations of the Craft, which have been discussed, and seem now to be generally understood and acquiesced in.

"It is cheering to witness the enthusiasm of our well-tried and enlightened brethren of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont, in the contrast which they draw between the present prosperous condition of Masonry in New England, and its condition under the reign of anti-Masonry, when the faithful few, who withstood the persecutions of that dark period, were as the salt of the earth, to preserve the principles of our beloved institution, now stand forth as beacon-lights to guide their young brethren in the right way.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, says : 'During the sixteen years in which the late Grand Master presided over us, I had the honor of standing by his side, and when the vandalism of our enemies assailed us, during the violent sirocco which followed the disturbance in a sister State, none knew better than myself the unshaken firmness, the wise prudence, the steady perseverance with which he devoted himself to the preservation of the rights and interests of the Order.'

"To which we have a response from the veteran Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

"'How full and overflowing must be our grateful hearts to our Divine Master, when we compare our present prosperous and happy state as a Fraternity, with what it has heretofore been ! I have been permitted, I think, to attend every annual communication of this Grand Lodge for the last quarter of a century—a period of many vicissitudes and trials to the true Mason ; and for a part of that time, a dark cloud has been over our Masonic horizon, made so by political schemers and cowardly deserters, uniting to bring derision and scorn, and (at one time) almost ruin, upon an institution honored by long ages for deeds of charity and benevolence.'

"But the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in commenting upon the prosperous condition of our institution everywhere, gives an admonition, which should be im-

pressed upon the mind of every Mason, and to which I would desire, brethren, particularly to draw your attention. He says :

“ ‘At the present moment, the institution is prosperous, almost without a parallel, not only under this jurisdiction, but under other jurisdictions, and throughout the civilized world. All the dormant Lodges, with very few exceptions, in the Commonwealth, have been resuscitated, and a large number of new ones chartered, and it is believed they are all faithful, active, and in good condition. Men of intelligence, worth, and influence, are seeking the honors and privileges of our institution, and devoting themselves to its interests with commendable zeal and earnestness. Large additions are yearly made to our numbers, and if we remain united, and true to ourselves, the institution will go on from prospering to prosper. But, brethren, a season of great prosperity is not without its perils. In the ordinary pursuits of life, success in business is not unfrequently the high road to ruin. So in Freemasonry, great prosperity is too often the prelude to a disorderly and unhappy state of the Fraternity.

“ ‘If I rightly interpret the signs of the times, there are already influences in operation, which, if not seasonably checked, will lead to consequences we may all have occasion to deplore. Combinations and parties should have no place in Freemasonry. Party feeling is the bane of the institution. Controversy and contention it cannot abide. Its empire is the heart ; and whatever tends to alienate the affections, aims a blow at its very existence. There never was, and there never can be rightfully, but one party in Freemasonry, and that, a truly Masonic party ; a party devoted to the interests and welfare of the institution—self-sacrificing, disinterested, and regarding the prosperity of the Craft paramount to all personal considerations. All other parties are inconsistent with the spirit and genius of the Order, and should be discountenanced by every friend of the institution. And I pray you, brethren, that you watch with the tenacity of life, and guard against the insidious approach of combinations, parties, and party animosities, whether they originate in hostility to the Craft, excessive, unregulated zeal, or from any other cause ; for nothing can be more fatal to the prosperity and well-being of the Fraternity.’

“ ‘Brethren, I would gladly, if the occasion would justify it, go on and draw from the rich mines of Masonic lore contained in the able and eloquent addresses and reports of the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kentucky, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Illinois, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan, Georgia, Texas, Mississippi, and Arkansas, and the Provincial Grand Lodges, Montreal, William Henry, and Canada West : but no ordinary address could be made to comprise so much, which speaks so favorably for the prosperity and growing information of the Grand Lodges in the United States. But, brethren, amid so much prosperity to cheer the heart of every lover of our institution,

we have to notice the unhappy divisions which have occurred in our sister States of Louisiana and New York.

"The difficulties in Louisiana have been of several years' continuance, and have been investigated and reported upon by nearly every Grand Lodge in the United States, and with only a few exceptions, the conduct of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has been decidedly disapproved ; and, indeed, I cannot see how any Grand Lodge could come to a different conclusion. The question is not, how far the Grand Lodge of Louisiana may have departed from the established landmarks of symbolic Masonry in the accumulation of different Rites ; she was recognized by all the Grand Lodges, and was in full Masonic intercourse and correspondence with all of them ; and whatever might have been the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi on that subject, the course which she adopted, of granting charters within the acknowledged jurisdiction of Louisiana, was not only discourteous towards the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and all the Grand Lodges in the United States, but it was setting a dangerous example, and departing from the true principles of Masonry, which was calculated to lead to the most deplorable and disastrous consequences to the harmony and good order of Masonry in the United States : for, if the Grand Lodge of Mississippi was justifiable in chartering Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, because she did not approve of her cumulated rites, then the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, upon a reciprocity of rights, would have been equally justifiable in sending her charters, not only into Mississippi, but into all the other States, and every Grand Lodge in the Union might have been thrown into disorder, by the hasty and unjustifiable action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

At the annual communication of this Grand Lodge in 1846, a resolution was adopted forbidding all Masonic intercourse with the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana. To that resolution, I was at that time opposed, and offered an amendment, which was adopted, censuring the Grand Lodge of Mississippi also. The more I have reflected upon the subject, the more am I convinced of the injustice as well as the impolicy of that resolution, and I hope this Grand Lodge will have it rescinded, and pass a resolution, cutting off all Masonic intercourse with the new Grand Lodge of Louisiana, until the difficulty is satisfactorily settled. I have, however, pleasure in saying that I understand there is an arrangement in progress, which promises an amicable settlement, satisfactory to all parties, and which, probably, has been effected before this time ; but the information, although it may be relied upon, has not been officially communicated to this Grand Lodge. I think it may be safely assumed that all difficulties, in regard to the Grand Lodges of Louisiana, are happily reconciled, and that there will be no interruption in our intercourse with the Grand Lodge of that State.

"The transactions which have occurred in the Grand Lodge of New York, are of a much more grave and reprehensible character, and must

be deprecated by every lover of the Order, who reveres and venerates our ancient and time-honored institution.

"It appears that, by the constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York, the Past Masters of the subordinate Lodges were members of the Grand Lodge, with full suffrage, and that this right existed from the first institution of the Grand Lodge of that State, and had grown up to become a serious evil, by giving to the city of New York an undue weight in the Grand Lodge over the representation of the other portions of the State: to correct which, a proposition was made and carried to amend the constitution of the Grand Lodge so as to take from the Past Masters this privilege. The Past Masters of the city of New York, and the party who supported their pretensions, claim that their right, as members of the Grand Lodge, to vote, was an 'inalienable right,' which could not be taken from them. And at the regular annual communication of the Grand Lodge, on the 5th June, 1849, a very tumultuous assembly gathered at the Grand Lodge room, and after much disorderly and unmasonic conduct, the Most Worshipful Grand Master having great difficulty in opening the Grand Lodge, the amendment of the constitution was announced; whereupon, a scene of most disgraceful disorder ensued, and the Grand Junior Warden declared the Grand Lodge dissolved, and with his associates proceeded to elect other Grand Officers, and to institute a body, which they claim is the Grand Lodge of New York.

"Long accounts of this transaction have been published by both parties, which I have examined as attentively as my other duties would allow. But the statement entitled, 'Historical narrative, explanation, and vindication of the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in relation to the unmasonic attempt of a portion of their body to revolutionize the organization thereof,' and signed '*James Her-ring, Grand Secretary*,' is sufficient to condemn the party attempting to vindicate their conduct. The whole *narrative* is written in a style of vituperative abuse and slang, which would discredit a *pot-house* politician.

"That the majority of the members and representatives of a Grand Lodge, should not possess the right to amend their constitution in any part, or at any time, when they should think it necessary, for the good of Masonry, so that they do not violate any of the established landmarks of Masonry, I should think would hardly be disputed by any well informed Mason; and that it should be contended, that any portion of the Fraternity possess 'inalienable rights,' which cannot be changed for the interest of the great body of Masonry, is not only contrary to the principles of the Order, but is, in my opinion, supremely ridiculous.

"Judge Walworth has decided that the amendment was 'valid and binding upon the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and of the subordinate Lodges, as a part of the constitution of the Grand Lodge.'

"But it is not necessary to decide this question, to enable any up-right Mason to determine upon the conduct of those who attempted to depose the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and set aside his authority. If their complaint had been a just one, their conduct would have been none the less reprehensible, and should be the more severely rebuked, as it proceeded from men who have heretofore occupied a high standing amongst the Fraternity, and claimed to dictate Masonic law for them.

"Judge Walworth, in stating the transaction from their own evidence, says: 'He (the Grand Master) had just commenced speaking, when he was interrupted by cries and yells, from some of those who occupied seats in the part of the room immediately in front of him, so that it was impossible for him to be heard, or to proceed, as he several times attempted to do. And this disorderly conduct was continued for some time: although the sound of the gavel and the voice of the Grand Master repeatedly called those who engaged in these disorderly proceedings to order.' I would ask if more disgraceful conduct could have been expected at Tammany Hall or the Tabernacle, in the hottest times of party violence? Where was their sense of 'reverential awe for the Supreme Architect of the Universe, who presides over this sacred retreat of friendship and virtue?' Where was their respect for the *Ancient Charges*, which declare 'the power of a Master in his Lodge is absolute? He is the supreme arbiter of all questions of order, so far as the meeting is concerned, nor can any appeal be made from his decision to that of the Lodge.' Where can such Masons find a precedent for their conduct? Not within the walls of a regular Lodge, but in the worst kind of political meetings, where every upstart politician and demagogue presumes to dictate *rules of order*. It is to be hoped that such conduct will receive the severe and indignant rebuke it so well deserves from all good and orderly Masons, as it has already been applied by the Grand Lodges that have acted upon these irregularities. Massachusetts, Kentucky, South Carolina, the District of Columbia, Rhode Island, and Illinois, have passed resolutions of decided disapprobation, and no doubt all the other Grand Lodges will act in like manner. The committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, very expressively say:

"Assuming the facts here stated to be true, and we have no reason to doubt them, on the contrary, we are assured that but half the story of the outrages and wrongs of the rioters is told, we cannot find language sufficiently strong in which to clothe our feelings of scorn and contempt, for those who have thus, with premeditation, sought to bring our Order into disrepute. It is not necessary to go back to the question of the power of a Grand Lodge to amend its constitution; no sane man will deny that power, and no argument adduced in the controversy, so clearly and satisfactorily establishes the propriety and justice of such amendments in New York, as that offered by the Past Masters

themselves, in their late riotous, disorderly, and shameful disregard of all Masonic duty and principle.

"The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia

"*Resolved*, That the whole course of action on the part of the Grand Lodge proper of the State of New York, was dignified, and in all its parts sustained by the Constitution and written law, as well as by *ancient Masonic usage*—while that of the disorganizers was marked by rebellion, violence, and a total disregard of propriety and order."

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge recognize the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which brother John D. Willard is M. W. Grand Master, as the only true and legal body of that name in that State; and that any other body pretending to be so, and all subordinate Lodges and Masons who adhere to the spurious and clandestine body, of which Isaac Phillips professes to be Grand Master, and James Herring, Grand Secretary, are held by us to be out of the pale of the Masonic Fraternity, and will be so held, until due amends are made for the wrong and injustice done to the Masonic character, by acknowledgement of error, satisfactory to the said Grand Lodge of New York; a restitution of the books, papers, property and funds to the proper and legal guardians; which were forcibly and unlawfully wrested from said legal guardianship.

"And I would recommend to this Grand Lodge to adopt similar resolutions.

"It appears that at the annual session of the Grand Lodge of New York, in June last, a proposition was submitted, having for its object a reconciliation of the difficulties in regard to a body existing in New York, under the name of "St. John's Grand Lodge, of New York," which was accepted and acted upon; and, for a time, promised a settlement of this trouble in the Masonic family of New York—but the St. John's Grand Lodge, not acting with sufficient promptitude in the matter, the Grand Lodge of New York adopted the following resolutions, at its quarterly meeting in September last:

"*Resolved*, That we are of the opinion that said resolution of this Grand Lodge, adopted at its last annual session, acceding to said reference, ought to be rescinded; but, inasmuch as it is a subject interesting to the whole Fraternity of the State, which should not be acted on definitely, except at the annual meeting,

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Officers be advised to suspend all further action under the power with which they are vested, for carrying into effect said reference, until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge."

"This Grand Lodge has never had any correspondence with the body called the 'St. John's Grand Lodge, of New York,' and I know nothing of its condition except from information obtained from two pamphlets, recently received—one entitled, '*Statements of Facts, Relating to the Instituting of St. John's Grand Lodge,*' &c., and the other, '*The Legality of St. John's Grand Lodge,*' &c., from which statements it is very evident that the Grand Lodge of New York, by a very harsh and unmasonic course of proceedings, against certain of its members, forced them into the position which they now occupy as 'The St. John's Grand Lodge of New York,' and the offense they committed, if offense it could be called, should have been dealt with in a spirit of greater Masonic charity. Yet, the St. John's Grand Lodge was insti-

tuted within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, and is, therefore, irregular ; and, until a proper reconciliation can be effected, this Grand Lodge must treat all such bodies as clandestine Masons.

"This Grand Lodge adopted the Constitution of a General Grand Lodge, submitted by the convention at Baltimore, but the requisite number of Grand Lodges not having adopted it, the scheme failed. But, the difficulties which continue to exist between the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and Louisiana, and the disorders in the Grand Lodge of New York, with some irregularities among the Fraternity of New Jersey, have caused the Grand Lodges to think more seriously of the necessity for some supreme Masonic head in the United States, and several propositions have been submitted to this Grand Lodge for consideration. The Grand Lodge of Maryland proposes as 'the only certain way of accomplishing so desirable a measure is to meet to form a supreme Grand Lodge, under the constitution already before them ; after this is done, and the body constitutionally organized, the constitution may be amended by a *majority only*, so as to meet the views of those who object to some of its provisions,' and it is proposed to meet in the city of Baltimore in the month of July next.

"The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, 'recommend that every Grand Lodge in the United States, in correspondence with this this Grand Lodge, be respectfully invited to send delegates to this city, to meet in convention here on the first Wednesday of May next, to take such other action on the subject as the exigencies of the case may seem to require.'

"The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island has submitted the form of a constitution of a General Grand Lodge, with limited powers, and recommends delegates to meet in Washington City, in May next. Several other Grand Lodges are in favor of a General Grand Lodge with specific powers, *jurisdiction, uniformity of work*, and to *settle difficulties*. But, with the exception of the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and New York, all the Grand Lodges in the United States seem to be working in harmony, and influenced by the very best Masonic spirit ; and where difficulties have occurred, they have been reconciled, upon proper investigation ; and where Grand Lodges have expressed opinions at variance with the ancient landmarks of the Order, proceeding either from inadvertence, or from a want of better light, they have been readily yielded, upon reflection, and more enlightened views. This spirit of deference manifested by the most distinguished and enlightened Grand Lodges to the opinions of their sister Grand Lodges, and their willingness to acknowledge error of opinion where it has been made apparent, is the most cheering characteristic of the enlightened state of Masonry in this land of free principles, which brings all our opinions to the level of truth, and will insure harmony in all our work.

"This Grand Lodge, by its Corresponding Committee, in their report.

to the annual communication in January, 1848, thus expresses its views on this subject :

“ Your committee are aware that they have committed errors by the hasty expression of opinion in former reports, and that they may have attempted by *argument* to support propositions which more mature reflection and examination have at least caused them to doubt the propriety of. More light is what every uninformed brother should be desirous of obtaining. Perhaps the greatest source of error, and of evil, too, is a dogmatical obstinacy in adhering to opinions once declared, for consistency's sake, against conviction ; and this want of frankness may be as often found amongst the *enlightened* as the *unenlightened*. Truth is what we are all in search of ; and no true and upright Mason should suffer it to be obscured by listening to the unsound arguments or sophistical reasoning which vanity, prejudice, or ignorance may tempt some to offer, or by refusing to acknowledge an error, through a false pride, when made sensible of it.”

“ In the same report, the committee remark, in the case of Walhalla Lodge :

“ It would seem that the action of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina has been against its own authority. When we consider the high character of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina for wisdom and Masonic knowledge, we forbear the expression of a decided opinion until we hear more of the matter, not being disposed to question the justice of our brethren of South Carolina.

“ At a quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, in December, 1848, the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, in his report, adverts to this subject, and enters into a very able and conclusive argument on this subject, to show the distinction which should be made in the question, between a Lodge's receiving to membership and depriving one of its members of the rights of membership. The Fraternity is indebted to this distinguished member of our Order for the light he has thrown on many important subjects, interesting to the Craft.

“ The very complimentary notice taken of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge by nearly all the Grand Lodges in the United States, should be highly gratifying to every member. The committee on Correspondence of our highly esteemed neighbor, the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in a very able report, full of valuable Masonic information, says :

“ Florida Grand Lodge, though young, is ahead of any other in the mass and interest of subjects and matter discussed and presented to the Fraternity, through her committee on Foreign Correspondence.”

“ The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, commenting upon this report, says :

“ It bears the most indubitable marks of the Masonic zeal and knowledge and untiring industry of its author.”

“ And the corresponding committee of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, whose favorable opinion is praise indeed, says :

“ We have perused, with great interest, the proceedings of this Grand Lodge. If Florida claims not to be one of the oldest, she is one of the brightest stars in our Masonic firmament. Vermont reciprocates her kind fellowship.”

"But I cannot notice all the kind things that have been said favorably to this Grand Lodge; and which should not have the effect to excite our vanity, or increase our self-importance. If we have been so much favored as to have some bright Masons among us, we should endeavor to reflect back their light, and double our diligence to deserve and maintain the good opinion which has been inspired in our sister Grand Lodges in our favor.

"Brethren, there never was a period in the history of our ancient Order, when Masonry was so generally prosperous; not only in our own country, but over the face of the whole civilized portion of the earth. But, brethren, if we will be wise, we will not be misled by this evidence of prosperity; it may be the forerunner of adversity. A bright hour of sunshine may only precede a dark cloud. In our own State, we witness the signs of prosperity from every quarter. New Lodges are springing up, and applicants for initiation are knocking at the doors of our Lodges in increasing numbers. This is a time, brethren, when we should all be on our guard; be watchful and vigilant, and see that none are admitted among us who will not strictly conform to the principles of our Order, and reflect credit on our institution. And to the Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and representatives of Lodges, I would particularly address myself; and desire to impress upon their minds the importance of a strict adherence to the charges and regulations of the Order. Be assured, brethren, that it is not the number we admit into our Fraternity, which should be looked upon as the evidence of our prosperity. It is too often, brethren, an evidence of the reverse; and a wise and experienced Mason will look with caution on a Lodge where he finds it anxious to make a great many new Masons, and doing what is called a great deal of work, out of the usually prescribed hours. We do not seek to make proselytes. Masonry was considered anciently a 'chosen, enlightened few,' with whom to be associated, the most distinguished in the land considered it an honor. But is that the idea of Masonry in the present day? How many are there among the profane, however loose they may be in morals, who would not be offended if their applications for admission were rejected? And how many do we not see daily, who are permitted to be raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons, without having understood anything of the preceding degrees, and who, indeed, never conceived one correct idea of this noble and heaven-born institution, urged on by mere curiosity or vanity to be called Masons? Such men have no knowledge of its principles, nor taste for the sublime precepts which it inculcates. And as soon as their curiosity or vanity is gratified, they withdraw from the Lodge; and to justify their own ignorance, or want of taste and imagination, they speak slightly of Masonry, and form the very class from which anti-Masons are recruited.

"Brethren, such Masons should be cut off from our institution, and placed, where nature designed them, with the profane and ignorant—

and to accomplish this, no non-affiliating Mason should be permitted to visit a Lodge, within whose jurisdiction he resides, unless he is capable of working himself into the Lodge, and then to be charged a moderate fee, for every visit after the first. A regulation of this kind, rigidly enforced, would soon do away with the question of non-affiliating Masons, and drones upon our institution ; and proper caution and circumspection in the admission of candidates, and in advancing them afterwards, will keep us clear of such. Every candidate should be made to comply rigidly with the forms of probation required by your by-laws ; and to stand an examination in open Lodge, at regular meetings, before he can be Passed or Raised ; and the privileges of *emergency* should never be granted, except in cases of strong necessity. One great fault with newly created Lodges and young Masons, is to do too much work, and keep irregular hours. The hours for work are from six to nine, between the 25th September and the 25th March, and from seven to ten, from 25th March to 25th September, and these regulations ought not to be violated ; because every brother is bound to attend all regular meetings and called meetings of his Lodge, when in his power to do so, without injury to himself or family, and these duties should never be rendered oppressive or burthensome by irregular hours, or unnecessarily called meetings. And, as every Mason owes obligations to his family, he should not set an example of irregular hours, which would give them just cause of complaint, and bring reproach on our Order.

"I will close this address by making some appropriate extracts from an encyclical letter of advice and admonition, addressed by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina to the Lodges under its jurisdiction :

" 'In the first place, the Grand Lodge earnestly calls your attention to the subject of admission of members. Let your great anxiety be not to increase the number, but the respectability and worthiness of your candidates. The prerequisite qualifications of applicants for Masonry, are of a threefold character. They are moral, mental and physical. Every candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry, must be a man of good moral character, of irreproachable reputation ; and living, as our Ritual expresses it, "under the tongue of good report." The Lodge which admits a member who has not these necessary qualifications, is bringing into our fold, not a lamb, the emblem of innocence and purity, but a ravenous wolf, who will inevitably destroy the flock. Neither is an ignorant nor uneducated man desirable as a candidate for our mysteries. Without some intellectual culture, it is not likely that he would appreciate the symbolical character of our institution, nor would he be capable of becoming a very useful or honorable member of the Craft. Lastly, as to the physical qualifications, the *Ahiman Rezon* leaves no doubt on the subject, but expressly declares, that every applicant for initiation, must be a man, free-born, of lawful age, in the perfect enjoyment of his senses, hale and sound, and not de-

formed, or dismembered. This is one of the ancient landmarks of the Order, which it is in the power of no body of men to change. A man having but one arm, or one leg, or who is in any way deprived of his due proportion of limbs and members, is as incapable of initiation as a woman. As to the religious qualifications, the action of some other Grand Lodges, makes it expedient that we should impress upon you, that no other religious test is necessary or proper in the candidate, except that he declares himself a firm believer in the existence of a Supreme Being.'

"Finally, on this subject, brethren, let it always be remembered, that in balloting for a candidate, each Lodge is acting not for itself alone, but for the whole Order at large. It is not simply admitting a new associate into its own narrow circle, but is introducing a brother into the great Masonic family, whose virtuous or vicious conduct will affect the institution in all parts of the world, for good or evil. Let no brother then forget that it is as sacred a duty to reject the worthless, as to receive the worthy.'

"The conduct of your members requires also constant supervision. A Mason must obey the moral law, and his conduct must be such as not only to do credit to himself, but reflect a portion of that credit upon the Lodge and the Fraternity, of which he is a part. The more faithful he is to his duties as a man, a citizen, and a neighbor, the more will he exalt the reputation of that institution of which he is a worthy member. But, on the contrary, if forgetful of the lessons of morality and virtue, which are taught within the Lodge, he degrades himself by the constant practice of immorality: the degradation falls not on him alone, but on all those who have given him the right hand of fellowship, and hailed him as a brother. In a case like this, the duty of the Lodge is plain: Let the erring brother be first kindly, but firmly admonished of his fault. If he repents and seeks amendment, let every aid be given to his new-formed resolutions, but if he continues in his course of vice, he must no longer be suffered to contaminate the purity of our institution by his presence, but like a diseased limb, must be cut off, lest he poison the whole body. Excepting in extreme cases of moral turpitude, it will be better to suspend for a given period, to allow the defaulter an opportunity of reclaiming himself; but when all hope of such a result is lost, he must be expelled from Masonry, and no longer be considered as a brother.'

"When such a man, living in the open shamelessness and abandonment of vice, without exhibiting in his life one guiding principle of Masonry, still continues to retain his membership in a Lodge in this jurisdiction, or claims to be a Mason in its vicinity, the Grand Lodge will hold such Lodge guilty of all the evil and disgrace which Masonry, in such a case must necessarily receive. Finally, brethren, among yourselves eschew all strife and quarrels, live in peace with all the world, live in love with each other. Thus shall you assist in the elevation

and prosperity of our beloved institution, and secure to yourselves the greatest of all blessings, 'a conscience void of offense.'

And may the Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe, ever have you in His holy keeping. May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement you in the bond of peace and fellowship.

"THOMAS BROWN, *Grand Master*."

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following Committees :

On Credentials and Reforms—Bros. STEPHENS, DYKE, and HEIR.

On Visiting Brethren—Bros. SHINE, GRAHAM, and BOARDMAN.

On Dispensations and By-Laws—Bros. GRAHAM, WILSON, and McDONALD.

On Accounts—Bros. RUST, FLETCHER, and A. G. JOHNSON.

On Propositions and Grievances—Bros. DAVIDSON, BOARDMAN, and MAUND.

On Ways and Means—Bros. S. S. KNIGHT, BOWEN, and HEIR.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. DILWORTH, STOCKTON, and SIBLEY.

On Education—Bros. STEPHENS, DYKE, and GRAHAM.

On Foreign Correspondence—Bros. J. P. DUVAL, THOMAS BROWN, and JOHN B. TAYLOR.

On motion of Brother Graham,

Resolved, That all Master Masons of regular standing, sojourning among us, be invited to seats in this Grand Lodge.

The Craft were then called to refreshment till to-morrow at 3 o'clock P. M.

TUESDAY, three o'clock P. M.

The Craft was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

Several reports from Committees, of a local character, were presented, read, and acted upon.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a special committee of seven be appointed to take into consideration and report upon the subjects of difficulty, which now agitate the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and New York.

Which was adopted, and the following brothers appointed thereon : Bronson, Douglas, Lancaster, Stephens, Heir, Thomas Brown, and John P. Duval.

The Craft were then called to refreshment, until to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 16, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

Brother Bronson offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the delegates or representatives of the different Lodges under this jurisdiction, be required to report to this Grand Lodge whether any, and what steps have been taken by the respective Lodges, in compliance with the resolution of the last Grand Lodge, in regard to education of the children of Master Masons within their jurisdiction, who do not possess the means of education."

Which was adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until seven, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

On motion, Brother George S. Hawkins was added to the committee on the New York difficulties.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

"The committee on Education beg leave to report that they have examined the reports of the following subordinate Lodges, made in accordance with the resolution adopted by the last Grand Lodge, viz. :

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1; Escambia Lodge, No. 15; Marion Lodge, No. 19; Gee Lodge, No. 21; and Newport Lodge, No. 23.

"The reports from these Lodges show but seven children of Master Masons destitute of the means of education, of which number five are in the jurisdiction of Escambia Lodge, and two in that of Jackson Lodge. The brethren of Escambia Lodge have taken the necessary steps to place at school those destitute in their vicinity, and Jackson Lodge has already bestowed on one of those reported, the means of education. On the whole, from the examination made by the committee, they are satisfied that the Lodges above named are awake on the important subject of educating the destitute. They regret there are so many Lodges that have failed to forward any returns on the subject, and they recommend that their attention be again called to the matter.

"Madison Lodge, No. 11, has undertaken the establishment of a school of a higher order, to be styled 'St. John's Seminary of Learning.' The committee recommend that the Grand Lodge give to this praise-worthy undertaking its countenance and support, and beg leave to submit herewith a resolution to that effect. The representative of that Lodge asks that Madison Lodge be allowed to make a report of their proceedings in the matter of the Grand Secretary, and that he be instructed to append the same to the printed proceedings of the present communication.

"Escambia Lodge submits, for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, a plan for raising a school fund, to be hereafter distributed among the Lodges, according to their several wants. The plan is to tax each Mason within this jurisdiction a specific sum, and after the fund thus collected shall amount to, say twenty-five thousand dollars, an immediate distribution to be ordered by the Grand Lodge, as above indicated. Without remarking upon the feasibility of this plan, your committee would recommend that the matter be deferred for the present, until all the Lodges have been heard from.

"The committee beg leave to report the following resolutions :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Florida heartily approves the contemplated establishment, by Madison Lodge, No. 11, under this jurisdiction, of a school to be styled 'St. John's Seminary of Learning,' and commend it to the favorable consideration of the Masonic Fraternity."

"Resolved further, That Madison Lodge is hereby permitted to make a report of their proceedings concerning said Seminary of Learning, to the Grand Secretary, and

that he is hereby directed to append said proceedings to the printed records of the present communication of the Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That the Lodges under this jurisdiction that have omitted to comply with the resolution of the last Grand Lodge, be and they are hereby required to take immediate measures to ascertain the number of children of Master Masons destitute of the means of education, who are residing within the limits of their respective jurisdictions; and to adopt such measures as may be in their power to cause them to be sent to school, or otherwise educated; and that they report to this Grand Lodge at its next Grand annual communication, the number of such children of each class, and what said Lodges have done in compliance with this resolution.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"CHARLES E. DYKE,
"From the Committee on Education."

Which report and resolutions were read and adopted.

On motion, a special committee, consisting of Brothers Past Grand Master Coe, Call, Bronson, Duval, Hawkins, Stephens, and Heir, were appointed to consider the subject of a General Grand Lodge.

On motion, a committee of seven was appointed to examine and report on the subject of Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*.

John P. Duval, R. B. Hilton, Thomas Douglas, R. A. Shine, J. B. Taylor, D. S. Graham, and J. M. W. Davidson, were appointed said committee.

Brother Thomas Douglas offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That only Past Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, and Past Masters who may become so by virtue of having been elected to preside in subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, have a right to vote."

Which was adopted.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to ballot for Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brothers were duly elected to the respective offices named :

M. W. RICHARD K. CALL, Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEORGE S. HAWKINS, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. Rev. CHARLES E. DYKE, Grand Chaplain.

On motion, it was

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge approve of the action of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, in regard to the arrangement of the Masonic festival, etc., to come off to-morrow.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, January 17, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met at the Masonic Hall, when, on invitation from Jackson Lodge, No. 1, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until

seven o'clock, P. M., and joined in procession, and marched to the Presbyterian church ; and after the installation of the Grand Officers-elect for the ensuing year by Past Grand Master John P. Duval, the brethren were addressed by Brother R. B. Hilton in a chaste and appropriate manner. At the hour of three P. M., the Grand Lodge partook of a sumptuous banquet provided by Jackson Lodge, under the supervision of Brother J. L. Demilly.

THURSDAY, January 17, seven o'clock, P. M.
The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, as Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Senior Warden *pro tem*.
R. W. S. B. STEPHENS, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.
R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. J. B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. Rev. CHARLES E. DYKE, Grand Chaplain.
W. I. W. BOWEN, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.
W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.
Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters JESSE COE, JOHN P. DUVAL, THOMAS BROWN, with a due representation, members and visitors.

The Grand Master, R. K. Call, entered and took his seat.

The select committee, on the subject of a General Grand Lodge, made the following report :

"The committee to whom was referred the communications from the Grand Lodge of Maryland, District of Columbia, and Rhode Island, in relation to the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, with the form of the constitution presented, have had the same under attentive consideration, and have come to the conclusion, that it would not conduce to the advancement and prosperity of Masonry, to form, at this time, a General Grand Lodge, and, therefore, recommend to the Grand Lodge to respectfully decline any agency in establishing a General Grand Lodge of the States.

"JESSE COE, *Chairman*."

Which was adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, January 18, ten o'clock, A. M.
The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. R. K. CALL, Grand Master.

R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. D. K. McDONALD, Grand Junior Warden *pro tem*.

R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. A. H. BROWNEL, Grand Junior Deacon *pro tem*.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters JOHN P. DUVAL, THOMAS BROWN, with a due representation of subordinate Lodges.

P. G. M. Thomas Brown offered the following resolution :

“Resolved by this Grand Lodge, That for the convenience of the Lodges near the boundary lines of the States of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida—the Grand Lodges of Georgia and Alabama consenting—a reciprocal privilege shall be allowed such Lodges so situated, to initiate, pass, and raise, or receive to membership, candidates or applicants from the adjoining State, provided, the Lodge to which he applied shall be nearer his residence than any Lodge in the State in which he resides, thus waiving State jurisdiction in such particular cases, for purposes of convenience.”

Which was read and adopted.

Brother John P. Duval, from a select committee, made the following report :

“The committee to whom was referred the *Masonic Text-Book*, by Worshipful John Dove, M.D., Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, beg leave to report that they have examined the work with attention, containing, first, the Compendium of Masonic History—second, the Ahiman Rezon, or Book of Constitutions—third, a History of the Organization of Grand Lodges generally, and the Grand Lodge of Virginia—fourth, the Manual of the first three degrees, as taught by Webb and others, for the last one hundred years, including the Order of Past Masters—containing the several Masonic Ceremonies of Installation, etc., etc.—fifth, a Methodical Digest of the Laws regulating the action of Grand Lodges, as drawn from Ahiman Rezon, as carried out and practiced in this country—and sixth, a full copy of the Code and By-Laws necessary for the government of subordinate Lodges. We fully agree with the author, that the adoption of such a work by each Grand Lodge in the several States, to operate as a Manual in their jurisdictions, would go further to establish uniformity of work and legislation, than any plan which could be possibly devised. The author has kept steadily in view the ancient landmarks of the Order, and what is most remarkable in this age of progressive Masonry, has presented nothing *new*, except his admirable systematic arrangement, and a mind replete with Ancient Masonic lore. The excellency of the work, though highly appreciated, was anticipated by your committee.

“We have known the author from early life, and we believe if there is a Mason, whose mind is more peculiarly fitted for the execution of

this Masonic work than any other, that Mason is the Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Florida will order a re-print of the *Masonic Text-Book*, by Worshipful Grand Secretary, John Dove, for the use of the subordinate Lodges ; and that, in the meantime, each subordinate Lodge shall procure a copy of the work, until the publication is made by the Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Florida earnestly recommend the adoption of the *Text-Book* by our sister Grand Lodges.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge forward a copy of this report to the Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and obtain a copy-right of the *Masonic Text-Book* for the use of this Grand Lodge.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman*."

Which report was read and concurred in, and the resolutions adopted.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

- R. W. JOHN CHAIN, District Deputy Grand Master, reappointed.
- R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, District Deputy Grand Master, Western District.
- R. W. GAD HUMPHRIES, District Deputy Grand Master, Eastern District
- R. W. BENJAMIN SAWYER, District Deputy Grand Master, Southern District.
- R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Lecturer.
- W. DANIEL S. GRAHAM, Grand Senior Deacon.
- W. DANIEL K. McDONALD, Grand Junior Deacon.
- W. JOHN SCOTT, Grand Sword-Bearer.
- W. JAMES H. VERDIER, Grand Marshal.
- W. CHRISTOPHER C. FLETCHER, Grand Pursuivant.
- W. ROBERT B. HILTON, Grand Orator.

Brother ALEXANDER H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, January 18, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Thomas Douglas, from the Select Committee on the New York Difficulties, made the following Report :

"Your Committee, appointed to examine and report upon the controversy existing in the State of New York, between two bodies, each of which claims to be the Grand Lodge of that State, and upon certain difficulties existing in Louisiana, respectfully report that they have given to the subject of the controversy in New York, that careful attention which a matter that so greatly disturbs the peace and harmony of the Craft in that State demands. They have duly and carefully examined various documents which have come to their hands from the respective parties, and especially the historical narrative, explanation, and (*attempted*) vindication of the course pursued by that body, of which Isaac Phillips claims to be Grand Master, which contains seven-

ty-nine pages, and is signed "James Herring, Grand Secretary"—a document which, your Committee are constrained to say, breathes throughout the most unchristian and unmasonic spirit—a spirit that does discredit to him who drew it up, but more to that body which sanctioned and sent it forth to the world: a spirit in perfect contrast with that manifested in the Report of the Special Committee of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, on the same subject, signed by Nelson Randall and fifteen other persons. Your committee even readily imagine that a body of men, who, after due time for reflection and consideration, could embody and send forth to the Masonic world a document so little in accordance with the principles of Masonry, would, when their feelings were highly excited, have been quite likely to have been guilty of the outrages of which they stand charged—and your Committee think there is quite enough in that document and the report of the self-constituted body from which it emanated, to show that they were so—and moreover that those two documents afford ample evidence that, even if they had labored under all the grievances of which they complain, they did not take the right course to obtain a remedy.

The adoption of an unconstitutional provision by the Grand Lodge could, upon no principle, work a dissolution of that body, or justify the minority in attempting, by force and violence, to seize the reins of government; and, even if it had caused such dissolution, there is nothing in the evidence before your committee to show that this small minority of members of that Grand Lodge had any authority to establish a new one. The power to do that would (upon general principles), in such a case, have reverted to the great body of Masons in that State. But your committee, after a full and thorough examination of all the evidence before it, have been unable to find anything which shows that the action of the Grand Lodge of New York violated any principle of its Constitution, or of the general principles and landmarks of Masonry, in adopting the amendment complained.

The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York, previous to the annual meeting of that body in June last, recognized Past Masters of subordinate Lodges as constituent members of the Grand Lodge, entitled to vote upon all questions, and to act as proxies of Lodges. Many of the country Lodges were dissatisfied with the powers thus possessed by the Past Masters, because, as they allege, the regulation, in its practical operation, gave to the fraternity of one section of the State, a disproportionate power in the Grand Lodge; that the officers and past Masters of twenty-four Lodges in the city of New York, were entitled to a greater number of votes, than the Representatives of seventy-three Lodges in the rest of the State; that by virtue of presiding over a Lodge one year, a Past Master became a member for life of the Grand Lodge, and a ruler for life over the whole Fraternity of the State; and that he could not be instructed by any Lodge. For these

and other reasons not necessary to be enumerated, resolutions were introduced into the Grand Lodge, at the annual communication in June, 1848, amendatory of the Constitution, the effect of which would be to deprive all the Past Masters, except the Junior one in each Lodge, of the right to vote, although still permitted to retain their seats, and take part in the deliberations of the Grand Lodge.

"The Past Masters, or a large number of them attached to the Lodges in the city of New York, opposed the proposed amendments on the ground, principally, that according to the original charter of the Grand Lodge, granted by the Grand Lodge of England, under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Athol, in 1781, constituting the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York, Past Masters were allowed certain inalienable rights, which no power could, at any subsequent period, deprive them of; and that the proposed change would be a violation of those vested rights.

"To this it is answered, that if such a right had been guaranteed to Past Masters by the charter of 1781 (which is denied), that it was in contravention of the ancient Constitutions, which did not recognize Past Masters as members of the Grand Lodge at all; and besides that, the Grand Lodge of England had no power, under any circumstances, to control the action of those who should come after them forever, and render permanent and unchangeable every provision which their own caprice might lead them to insert in the Charter; and further, that the warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of England, expressly provided, that it should continue of force only so long as due obedience was paid to the source from which it emanated. That in 1785, a Masonic Constitution was formed for the Fraternity of the State of New York, as an independent Fraternity, and for the Grand Lodge, as an independent Grand Lodge. That doubts having been afterwards expressed, whether the Grand Lodge was, or should be held under the Provincial Grand Warrant, a committee was appointed on the subject, who reported that the Grand Lodge of New York was established upon a constitution formed by the Representatives of regular Lodges; which report was adopted by the Grand Lodge, thus declaring, that their rights as a Grand Lodge did not depend upon the charter granted by the Grand Lodge of England, but upon a constitution formed by the Representatives of the Lodges, subsequent to the separation of the Colonies from the Crown of Great Britain.

"By the constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York, any amendment, to be effective, must be adopted at two successive annual communications, unless, in addition to the adoption at one communication, it shall receive the affirmative votes of a majority of the subordinate Lodges. The amendments in question were adopted by a large majority of the Grand Lodge at the annual communication in June, 1848, and were sent for confirmation or rejection to the Lodges. At the quarterly communication in March, 1849, a series of resolutions was

offered by R. W. Isaac Phillips, P. D. G. M., condemning the proposed amendments, and declaring them unconstitutional and revolutionary ; and that their adoption, either by the Grand Lodge, or by a vote of the Lodges, would be void and of no force. The Deputy Grand Master, presiding, refused to put the question, on the ground that it was unconstitutional for the Grand Lodge to act at a quarterly communication, on any matter which interested the whole body. An appeal was taken from his decision, which was sustained, and the resolution was adopted.

" At the annual communication in June, 1849, there was a large attendance of members, both from the city and country. The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, the Grand Master, John D. Willard, in the chair. The Grand Secretary, before calling the Lodges, announced officially that the amendments to the constitution, proposed at the previous annual communication, had been adopted by a majority of the Lodges. This announcement produced a scene of confusion and uproar of the most disgraceful character, and utterly unbecoming Masons, some of whom had been distinguished for their high standing, intelligence, and praiseworthy devotion to the interests of the Fraternity. Order having been partially restored, the roll of the Lodges was called, when it appeared that seventy-six Lodges were represented. The Grand Master then proceeded to read his annual address, but was interrupted by a call for the reading of the minutes of the preceding quarterly communication, and another scene of confusion and disorder ensued. The Grand Master made continued efforts to restore order, but without success. The gavel had lost its controlling influence. He then caused the Rules of Order to be read ; but this had no effect in stilling the tempest. After some time the Grand Master arose, and stated that, for the sake of conciliation and harmony, he would overlook this gross insult which had been offered to himself and the Grand Lodge, and would cause the minutes first to be read. This was done, and the Grand Master delivered his annual address, in which he took occasion to communicate officially to the Grand Lodge, the fact of the adoption of the amendments to the constitution.

" As soon as he had closed, P. D. G. M. Isaac Phillips arose and inquired of the Grand Master if he had stated that the amendments to the constitution were binding on the Grand Lodge. The Grand Master replied in the affirmative, when Brother Phillips, assuming an elevated position, loudly said, ' Then I pronounce that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York is dissolved.' The Grand Master called him to order, but he proceeded to address those who were opposed to the amendments, calling upon them to assist him in *organizing a Grand Lodge*, nominating R. W. William Willis as Chairman. Brother Willis* ap-

* In the report of the self-constituted body, calling itself the Grand Lodge, it is stated that the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden then inquired, &c., and that

proached the East, mounted the platform on which the Grand Master was seated, and claimed to assume the post of Chairman. Repeated efforts were made by the Grand Master to restore order, but without effect. Brother Willis called upon the Grand Secretary to call the roll of Lodges, which he refused to do. A brother present called over the roll from a list which he had in his possession, when *twenty-three* persons answered, who claimed to be the Representatives of Lodges, being less than one-fourth of the Lodges then represented. These individuals proceeded, in presence of the Grand Lodge, and in disregard of the Grand Master, who still retained his seat, to form an irregular and clandestine body, calling itself the Grand Lodge of New York, and electing officers *viva voce*. Brother Willis then moved an adjournment until the next evening at eight o'clock. The Grand Master rose and in a loud voice reminded those present that the Grand Lodge was not about to adjourn, and would proceed with its business. After some time, the Grand Lodge adjourned in the usual form to the next morning at 9 o'clock, the Grand Master, and other Grand Officers, having during all the other preceding scenes, retained their seats, and worn the jewels and emblems of their respective offices. The Grand Lodge continued its sessions from day to day until the 11th of June, transacting much important business, when it was closed in **AMPLE FORM**, having first expelled several refractory members from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

“ That a Grand Lodge has the power to change its constitution, in accordance with the provisions of the instrument itself, provided there be no violation of the ancient landmarks of Masonry, no intelligent man will, we think, deny ; and your committee cannot perceive in the amendment adopted, any such violation. For Past Masters have not, as contended by these malcontents, inherent, unalienable right to be members of, and vote in the Grand Lodge—that is entirely a matter of constitutional regulation ; and until a very late period in Masonic history, they were never members of such Grand Lodge as *Past Masters*. The time was, when all Master Masons were members of, and voted in the General Assemblies of Masons ; and the fact that they are not permitted to attend and vote in Grand Lodges now, sustains the principle assumed in regard to the amendment of the constitution, excluding Past Masters. It may perhaps be proper for your committee to notice another ground of justification, assumed by the body who so loudly complain of that amendment, *viz.*, that it violated the contract : ‘ A difficulty had occurred, in 1823, by which the Grand Lodge of New

he, on the reply of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, said : “ Then, sir, by virtue of the decision made by the Grand Lodge at its last quarterly communication, the body over which you preside is not the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, as originally constituted, and has ever been maintained.” [Here the difference is not deemed material.]

York became separated into two bodies, each claiming to be the right-ful Grand Lodge, until June, 1827, when at their annual communication, they again agreed to unite in one Grand Lodge, and entered into certain articles of compact,' and these it is said were violated. But your committee, after a careful comparison of the amendment with those articles, see nothing in it inconsistent with their provisions.

"Your committee cannot close this report, without again recurring to the riotous proceedings of these malcontents—the *time* and the circumstances attending them. The Grand Lodge had been opened in *AMPLE FORM*—the Worshipful Grand Master, duly qualified, was sitting in *open Lodge*, clothed with the insignia of his office, when these malcontents called one of their number to take the Chair, and under his attempted rule, an election was held by them—the Worshipful Grand Master the while sitting in his proper place, and by the use of his gavel endeavoring to restore and preserve order. Should such a thing be tolerated by Masons? Certainly not. When the sound of a gavel in the hand of a Master, shall fail to be respected and obeyed, we may bid farewell, *a long farewell*, to ancient Freemasonry.

"Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz. :

"*Resolved*, That whatever may have been the grievances of these complainants, their conduct upon the occasion referred to, was wholly unmasonic and unjustifiable.

"*Resolved*, That the whole course of action on the part of the Grand Lodge (proper) of the State of New York, appears to have been dignified, and in every respect sustained by the constitution and written law, as well as by ancient Masonic usage; and in violation of no compact.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge view with the deepest sorrow and regret, the late riotous proceedings in the Grand Lodge of New York, by which the whole Fraternity have been greatly scandalized and severely injured; and that this Grand Lodge does most earnestly and affectionately call upon every individual brother in our sister State of New York, whatever may be his position, to learn to subdue his passions—to discard all prejudice, all bitterness, all feeling—and, in this matter, invoke the aid of our Great Grand Master, to aid them in seeking the truth, and especially to follow out the things that make for peace. And especially do we earnestly recommend to the erring brethren to return to the *old paths*—to the principles of brotherly love, and a proper subordination to the constitutional authorities.

"*Resolved*, That we fully recognize, as the only legitimate Grand Lodge in the State of New York, that of which the Most Worshipful John D. Willard is Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful Robert R. Boyd is Grand Secretary; and that we will continue to hold fraternal intercourse with that body, and with no other in that State.

"*Resolved*, That the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction be enjoined to exercise the strictest scrutiny in the examination of visitors hailing from New York, inasmuch as there are now two spurious bodies in that State, claiming to be the Grand Lodge, one calling itself St. John's Grand Lodge, and the other claiming Isaac Phillips for its Grand Master; and that they admit none but such as produce proper certificates emanating from the Grand Lodge recognized by the last preceding resolution.

"THOMAS DOUGLAS, *Chairman*."

Which was received and the resolutions unanimously adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

On motion, the following report on Foreign Correspondence, presented at the annual communication in 1849, but not then acted on, was taken from the table, viz. :

"The Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, Brother John B. Taylor, M.D., from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report : Your committee have received the proceedings of the annual communications of the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Missouri, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Texas. The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Florida, has uniformly forwarded the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and we exceedingly regret the neglect of the Secretaries of the Grand Lodges who have failed to reciprocate the proceedings of their Grand Lodges, thereby excluding from us light from our more intelligent sister Grand Lodges, and presenting an insuperable barrier to uniformity of work and Masonic principles. Your committee at the last annual communication, having presented by the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Thomas Brown, an elaborate report upon all Masonic subjects, at that time under the consideration of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, now deem it necessary only to report upon such subjects as have since been acted upon by this and other Grand Lodges of the United States."

SUPREME GRAND LODGE OF THE UNITED STATES.

"We copy the following from the address of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri :

"That these evils can be corrected by the creation of a Supreme Grand Lodge (the committee seem to think), the two bodies to which they refer, to wit : the Grand Lodge of England, and the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, are a living refutation ; for under the immediate influence of each of these, the same evils now exist to an extent as great as they do under any other true Masonic organization. From an undoubted source, I learn that the Grand Lodge of England, in its *Supremacy*, has struck from our ritual the word *born* and substituted the word *man* in its place."

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence, of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, report, furthermore, the form of constitution submitted by the Baltimore Convention, held in September last, containing provisions highly objectionable, in the opinion of your committee. Your committee call attention to the following :

"Article 2. The State Grand Lodges shall continue their present organization, powers, and duties, without any change, but at their own will and pleasure, except so far as may be necessary to conform to this constitution.

"Now, according to this provision, in what condition would the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and several other Grand Lodges be placed

on the subject of the difficulty between the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and Louisiana? On the supposition that the Grand Lodges of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Missouri should unite in the organization of the Supreme Grand Lodge, Missouri would be compelled by the Supreme command, to lay aside its most solemn opinions and determinations on the subject of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, repeal her edicts respecting Masonic correspondence and intercourse, and recognize as correct and valid, that which we have declared to be otherwise. Our rights and privileges would be brought under the direct influence and control (to some extent), of those whose very existence, as regular Masons, we have already denied. It is earnestly hoped that this will not be done.'

" 'The Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons in the United States, are declared to be united under one Supreme Grand Lodge.'

" Now, your committee respectfully submit, if this is not 'an invasion' upon our Order. Let all call to mind the nature and form of Grand Lodge organizations, for all time past; when or where can a Grand Lodge be found on earth, constituted as above provided. From the first organization of the first Grand Lodge at York, to this day, all have consisted of the Master and Wardens (for the time being), of the subordinate Lodges, not 'of Grand Lodges united.' Thus we have a General Grand Chapter composed of officers of Grand Chapters, but that cannot serve as a precedent for the government of the Grand Lodges, having charge of the symbolic degrees, and whenever that shall be urged as a precedent, it will be easy to show, that it was itself without Masonic precedent.

" There are other objections to the Supreme *novelty*: Your committee are fully satisfied that though the organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge might be able to correct some irregularities, supply some defects, and operate for good to some degree, yet they are fully persuaded that the great evils which they believe would certainly arise from it, would outweigh all benefits which can be rationally expected to arise from the creation of such a power.

" Your committee, at the annual communication of 1846, reported in favor of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge. But we must, in candor, admit that new lights have broke into our minds, from the able argument of the several Grand Lodges opposed to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge. We consider the masterly view taken by the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Missouri unanswerable. But whether the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Florida has undergone any change in relation to the general policy of the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge or not, yet having given our assent to the Missouri resolutions in relation to the controversy between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, we, equally with the Grand Lodge of Missouri, are now absolutely

precluded from giving our assent to the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge. When the Grand Lodge of Florida gave their assent to the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge, it was supposed that every Grand Lodge in the United States was constituted of Ancient York Masons. The controversy between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, has since satisfied us that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, though originally a legally constituted Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, has ceased to be so. In consequence we now no longer regard her as a Grand Lodge of York Masons, and have, by our solemn act, prohibited all Masonic intercourse with that Grand Lodge. By the second article of the constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, the State Grand Lodges shall *continue their present organizations, powers, and duties, without any change*, but at their *own will and pleasure*. According to this provision, the Grand Lodge of Florida, if she unites in establishing a Supreme Grand Lodge, will have to meet in general communication with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, with whom the Grand Lodge of Florida has prohibited all Masonic communication, and we would necessarily be compelled, against the convictions of our judgment, and, as we conceive, in violation of the ancient landmarks of the Order, to expunge the obnoxious interdiction from our records, and this may be done by the casting vote of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. For these reasons,

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge cannot assent to the organization of a Supreme or General Grand Lodge.

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, reports :

“‘This Grand Lodge has twice, at our several communications, given its opinion in favor of establishing a General Grand Lodge. But it becomes necessary for us to state our opinion of the constitution adopted at the Baltimore Convention ; and in doing so, we cannot but regret, in view of the importance of establishing a Supreme Grand Lodge, that we are unable to concur in all the provisions of that instrument. Of the minor provisions we will not speak, but we deem the objections to a few of the leading articles insurmountable. Article 1, Section 4, provides that each Grand Officer and *each Master of a subordinate Lodge, shall have one vote*. Now, if this means to include all the Masters of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Lodge, it is carrying the Masonic elective franchise too far. While it gives a State Grand Lodge only four votes each, the subordinate Lodges of the same State might be entitled to fifty. Upon the other hand, if it is only intended to apply to subordinate Lodges chartered by the Supreme Grand Lodge, the objection is equally great. Under this view, a Territory or State having no Grand Lodge, might cast twice as many votes as a State Grand Lodge, and being subordinates of the Supreme Grand Lodge, swallow up the influence of the State Grand Lodges.

“‘Section 2, Article 2, provides where three or more Lodges in any State or Territory shall have, etc., *they may* be formed by authority, etc., into a Grand Lodge. The right of three or more Lodges in a State or Territory to be formed into a Grand Lodge, we regard as *inherent*, and ought not to be infringed or interfered with at the discretion of any power or claim on the part of the Supreme Grand Lodge, if the right to grant or withhold a charter, under such circumstances, to the Lodges applying therefor, being in good standing, would be claiming unmaasonic privilege.’

“The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Michigan are in favor of restricting the power of a General Grand Lodge. They report : ‘A General Grand Lodge should most certainly be endowed with only limited powers, viz., Masonic jurisdiction, modes of work, and subjects collateral thereto.’ We find that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, from the following resolution, has not yet determined, in relation to the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge :

“*Resolved*, That the whole subject be referred to a committee of nine, to report at a special communication, to be called for that purpose in January.

“The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine is in favor of a Supreme Grand Lodge, ‘provided all will come into the arrangement harmoniously, but not otherwise.’ The Grand Lodge ratified and approved the constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge.

“The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Vermont remarks :

“‘As to the necessity or policy of establishing a National Grand Lodge, there still exists great conflict of opinion. For the present, it seems inexpedient for this Grand Lodge to take any action, or express any opinion on the subject of the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge.’

“The Grand Lodge of Iowa has appointed a special committee to report on this subject at the next Grand communication.

“Your committee, upon investigation, find the following Grand Lodges in favor of the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge, viz. :

“North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Wisconsin, Maine, and Florida—7. Opposed, are the Grand Lodges of Connecticut, Missouri, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Virginia, Texas, District of Columbia, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, and Ohio—15.

“The Grand Lodge of South Carolina has expressed no opinion—Vermont declines an expression of opinion—Iowa has appointed a special committee, to report at the next Grand annual communication—Georgia postpones expression of opinion, until the next annual communication. Your committee have seen no communication from the remaining Grand Lodges.

"It is evident, from this statement, that there is a failure to establish a Supreme Grand Lodge.

"The Committee of Foreign Correspondence, of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in reviewing the controversy between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, make the following highly complimentary remarks to the Grand Lodge of Florida :

"And here your committee beg leave to tender to the committee of the Florida Grand Lodge their kindest acknowledgements for the systematic arrangement of the documentary evidence in relation to this controversy. The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida never fail to command the attention of the intelligent Mason. They are by far the most instructive issued from the press. Your committee have read the proceedings of this Grand Lodge with much pleasure, and have been greatly instructed thereby. The report of the committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida, should be in the hands of every Mason in America. And here we will take occasion to correct an error into which we were led in our last Report, in relation to the authorship of the report of the committee of Florida Grand Lodge last year. That very able and excellent report was prepared by General John P. Duval, and not by Brother G. F. Baltzell, as we then stated.'

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in his Address, remarks :

"An imperfect copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida is at hand. Some pages are missing, several duplicated. The committee on Foreign Correspondence have performed their duty faithfully, presenting a voluminous and well digested report, full of good sense, and bringing to view the most important transactions of other Grand Lodges. The committee are evidently familiar with Masonic principles and usages, and have, I think, fallen into but two or three errors. Expulsion by a subordinate Lodge amounts only to suspension, until the meeting of the Grand Lodge, when the action is either confirmed, set aside, or referred back. No one, I apprehend, will contend that a subordinate Lodge has the *power* to expel *right or wrong*, or that a Grand Lodge is bound to confirm it,' &c.

"Your committee feel gratified for the complimentary notice of the Grand Master, but beg leave respectfully to say that, in their humble opinion, the Most Worshipful Grand Master is decidedly in error himself. We do contend that a subordinate Lodge has the *power* to expel. The judgment of the Lodge may be *right or wrong*. But if *wrong*, that judgment can be overruled, upon an appeal to the Grand Lodge. The argument that, because the judgment of the subordinate Lodge may be overruled by the Grand Lodge, and is, therefore, nothing more than a suspension, is just as applicable as to say the judgment of a Court of Record is not a final judgment, because it may be reversed by an

Appellate Court. The power to expel by a Lodge is coeval with the establishment of the Order, and existed long before the establishment of Grand Lodges. We admit the right also of the Grand Lodge to expel from all the rights and benefits of Masonry ; also its paramount authority. But the power of the subordinate, in one particular, cannot even be controlled by the Grand Lodge, viz., restoration of the expelled member to membership in the Lodge expelling him. We contend that the judgment of a subordinate Lodge, expelling a member, is final and valid, and must ever remain so, unless he is reinstated by the subordinate Lodge, the judgment reversed, or the case sent back to the subordinate Lodge for a new trial. To sustain us in this position, we confidently refer to the records of Lodges from the earliest history of Masonry, to the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and to the ancient constitutions of Masonry. The committee of Correspondence concur in the views of their Grand Master.

"We would respectfully call the attention of the committee to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, noticed in the report of your Committee in 1846, viz. : The Grand Master agrees with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina that *expulsion from a Lodge* deprives the party expelled of all the rights and privileges he ever enjoyed. It is only necessary to add, that the Grand Secretary of South Carolina, is the distinguished Albert G. Mackey, M.D., author of the *Lexicon of Masonry*, which, we venture to say, contains more correct Masonic information upon all Masonic subjects, than has ever been our fortune to find in all other books we have ever seen.

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana say :

"The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, at its annual communication held at Tallahassee in January, 1848, present a businesslike appearance, and contain a fund of Masonic information that might put to shame the Grand Lodges of older States. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is an able paper, and contains a variety of subjects interesting to the Craft.'

"The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas say in their report of 1847 :

"Upon the whole, however, it is perhaps most proper for us to acquit this body by its thanks to our sister of Florida for the very long, though perhaps not altogether flattering notice which she has taken of this Lodge. We think the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and particularly the report of its committee of Correspondence, a work of rare merit.'

"We feel grateful for the complimentary notice of our report of 1846, and assure the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, that if in our ardent

defense of Masonic principles, we may have neglected some little courtesy, yet we in our hearts cherish the kindest feelings towards our sister Grand Lodge of Arkansas.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, after recapitulating the various subjects reported upon by the committee of Foreign Correspondence of Florida, at the last communication, concludes by saying :

" 'These subjects are discussed at great length and with much ability, though we differ from the committee in their conclusions upon some of the principles discussed. We commend this report to the attention of all brethren interested in these subjects.'

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence, of the Grand Lodge of New York, take the following flattering notice of the report of our committee :

" 'The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida held its annual communication on the 10th of January, 1848, nine Lodges were represented and one new charter was granted. We have been particularly gratified by the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, which is the principal feature of the transactions of the present year, and on which were founded several important decisions. The document extends to sixty pages, and exhibits throughout, that it is the result of careful study and reflection, with a truthful and honest design of reporting the Foreign Correspondence faithfully. The tone and manner are admirable, and we like its spirit.'

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in reviewing the controversy between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, make the following remarks highly complimentary to the Grand Lodge of Florida :

" 'And here your committee beg leave to tender to the committee of the Florida Grand Lodge, their kindest acknowledgment for the systematic arrangement of the documentary evidence in relation to this controversy. The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida never fail to command the attention of the intelligent Mason. They are by far the most instructive issued from the press.'

GENERAL WASHINGTON, W. M.

"At the laying of the corner-stone of the Smithsonian Institute, Mount Noble Lodge, No. 91, Shepardstown, Va., presented to the Grand Master of the District of Columbia, the Masonic Apron of General Washington. It was presented to the Grand Lodge of France, through the hands of General Lafayette, who was a distinguished Mason. It is said to have been worn by General Washington on many occasions, and also at the laying of the corner-stone of the Capitol of the United States. The President of the United States, Brother James K. Polk, the Vice-President of the United States, Brother George M. Dallas, Brother William Seaton, Past Worshipful Grand Masters, &c., were

present. The gavel with which General Washington laid the cornerstone of the Capitol—the property of Potomac Lodge, No. 5, and the Apron before alluded to were passed to the stand, the M. W. G. M. explaining the history of each, as also the charter granted by brother Edmund Pendleton, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Virginia, to Brother George Washington, to form the Washington Alexandria Lodge. The members of the Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, &c., were present. This Lodge had the honor of having initiated, passed, and raised George Washington, as the records show. The Right Worshipful Masters of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, also exhibited the ancient Records of said Lodge, showing the initiation by that Lodge of George Washington, on the 4th of November, 1752, the passing on the 3d of March, 1753, and of his being raised in said Lodge on the 4th of August, 1753.

GRAND LODGES OF LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI.

“The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire says : ‘ We are not satisfied that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has not erred in some respects, but that the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi seems to us quite premature and unauthorized.’

“The Grand Lodge of New York passed the following resolutions :

“1st *Resolved*, That as we have heretofore recognized the Grand Lodge of Louisiana as the sole, proper, and legitimate government of the Symbolic degrees of Masonry in the State of Louisiana, so we shall continue to sustain her in her rights and prerogatives as such.

“2d. *Resolved*, That we advise and request the Grand Lodge of Mississippi to rescind and reverse the dispensations and warrants which have been granted under her authority to brethren in the State of Louisiana.

“3d. *Resolved*, That all Lodges planted in the State of Louisiana, by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, or any other Grand Lodge than the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, established in the year 1812, are irregular Lodges, and as such cannot be recognized by us.

“4th. *Resolved*, That all intercourse between the Lodges and Masons of this State, and the Lodges in the State of Louisiana, not deriving their authority from the Grand Lodge of that State, is hereby strictly prohibited.

“Whilst your Committee fully concur in the second, third, and fourth of their resolutions, and recommend their adoption by this Grand Lodge, they cannot give their sanction to the first resolution. They regret this the more, because it looks like presumption in a junior Grand Lodge, which was organized but as of yesterday, to place itself in opposition to the eminent and Ancient Grand Lodge of New York, on this great Masonic question ; but believing that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has, by its constitutional organization, violated the principles and overthrown the landmarks of Ancient York Masonry, painful as may be the duty, we feel conscientiously bound as Masons, to hand down to our successors the pure principles of our sacred Order, as we received them from our Masonic Fathers, unaltered, and

without diminution or addition. We are the more surprised at the tenacity with which the Grand Lodge of New York clings to their first expressed opinion of the legality of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, after having so recently inculcated upon all the Grand Lodges of the United States, the absolute necessity of adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order, in relation to the admission of candidates.

"The Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, say :

"We have to notice one other remark in the Report of the Missouri Committee, concurred in by the Grand Lodge of Florida. They say they clearly concur with the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in assuming jurisdiction over Louisiana at this time, has not acted in conformity to what is regarded to be a fundamental law in this country, and only regret that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana did not assume and maintain this ground, when the Grand Orient of France, with even less ceremony, trampled upon its jurisdiction, by constituting Lodges in the State, after it was legally organized and acknowledged.'

"The Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, remarks :

"The Grand Orient of France were probably not aware of the claims of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, otherwise she acted contrary to her own statutes. But the Grand Lodge of Louisiana did in this case precisely what the Grand Lodge of Georgia did, when she took under her jurisdiction Orion Lodge, No. 8, which had been established within her territory by the Grand Lodge of Florida, and what the Grand Lodge of Illinois has more recently done, by taking Kavanaugh Lodge under her wing, which was placed in her territory by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.' It is perhaps the misfortune of your Committee, not to see the principle here attempted to be illustrated ; it may be owing to the obliquity of our mental vision. Orion Lodge was not established within the territorial limits of Georgia by the Grand Lodge of Florida, but was established in Florida, and removed afterwards to Bainbridge, in Georgia, by its own action.

"The Grand Lodge of Florida, after its removal, promptly admitted the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. Kavanaugh Lodge was established by the Grand Lodge of Illinois in disputed territory, claimed equally by both Illinois and Wisconsin, and was relinquished by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, when satisfied that the Lodge was within the territorial limits of Illinois. But admitting that the statement, as made by the committee be correct, how does it apply ? The Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, of Georgia and Illinois assumed properly jurisdiction over the Orion and Kavanaugh Lodges of Ancient York Masons, established by Grand Lodges of Ancient York Masons of Florida and Wisconsin, which is relied upon as a justification of the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of Louisiana taking under its

jurisdiction the modern Lodges of French and Scotch Rites. If the Grand Lodges of Georgia and Illinois had taken under their jurisdiction Lodges of Odd Fellows and Sons of Temperance, the illustrations would have been in point, but even in that event, precedents in violation of the ancient landmarks of Masonry, can never be a pillar of strength, to sustain the Order, but a beacon-light to warn the wandering Mason of approaching danger.'

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence, published in the transactions of the Grand Lodge of New York, in January last, the following words :

" 'To arouse the Fraternity everywhere to *active use of talents committed to their care ;—vigorously to preserve the old constitutions and landmarks of the Order ; to banish innovations and error from their statute books and practice.*'

"We call upon you to sustain your precepts by example. Do you not admit that, according to the constitutions and landmarks of the Order, no man can be made a Mason until he is of lawful age? yet the Grand Lodge of Louisiana authorizes its infraction by permitting the sons of Masons to be initiated at the age of eighteen. Do you not admit that it requires no higher degree than that of Master Mason to qualify a member of the Grand Lodge for the office of the Most Worshipful Grand Master? yet the Grand Lodge of Louisiana by its constitution prohibits the election of any Master Mason to the office of Most Worshipful Master of the Grand Lodge, unless he has also received the degrees of the French and Scottish Rites. Would there be any more impropriety in the Grand Lodge of New York, by its constitution, to require Master Masons, members of your Grand Lodge, to receive the degrees of Odd Fellows and Sons of Temperance, before they would be eligible to the office of Grand Master of your Grand Lodge?

"We are aware that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana contends that they do not mix the Ancient York, French, and Scotch Rites, but that they only *accumulate* the two latter rites. We shall not enter into any metaphysical disquisition, or hair-drawn Masonic deductions. Our Masonic path is plain and distinct, for it has been trodden for ages, and leads directly to the truth that Masonry is immutable as the laws of nature. There can be neither alteration, diminution, or accumulation. As the Holy Writ, cursed is the man who *adds* thereto, or takes therefrom. Actuated by a sense of duty, we have ceased to recognize the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. We have censured the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and equally refuse to recognize the subordinate Lodges established by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in the State of Louisiana, or the new Grand Lodge of Louisiana, established by the Mississippi Lodge within the State of Louisiana. We have pursued this course, because although we consider that one Grand Lodge has a right to express an opinion in relation to the Masonic or unmasonic

action of another Grand Lodge, and for good cause to refuse Masonic intercourse ; yet, as Grand Lodges are equal, no one can invade the jurisdiction of another : nor can we see the propriety of such a course, even if it is apparent that the Grand Lodge, whose jurisdiction is invaded, has violated the ancient landmarks of the Order. Each State, for ages to come, will afford space sufficient for millions of brethren to dwell together in unity, under the fostering care of their own Grand Lodge, and the erring sister Grand Lodge may by lenient means be drawn back to the path of Masonic rectitude ; but violence and recrimination are only calculated to perpetuate error and accrimony.

" We believe, with the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Mississippi, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana should no longer be recognized as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. But as the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and New York are Masons of high intelligence, there is a probability that these Grand Lodges are right, and that we are wrong. In any event, we would be unwilling, even if we are right, to invade the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana ; and we are now inclined to believe that if the consideration of this subject was again presented to this Grand Lodge, they would not discontinue Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, until they had ascertained that a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States coincided with them in opinion. We part with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana in love and not in anger. We regard her as a sister Grand Lodge, of the Ancient York Rite, fallen from her high estate. We believe that she has followed new lights, and worshiped strange gods. We yet believe that she will be raised by the Lion of the tribe of Judah to her original power, and pristine condition.

" We copy from their reports the following action of the several Grand Lodges, in relation to this unfortunate controversy :

" The Grand Lodge of New York,

" *Resolved*, That they have heretofore recognized the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and shall continue to sustain her in all her rights and prerogatives, as such.

" The Grand Lodge of Missouri, after a full investigation, report a resolution,

" That all Masonic intercourse is hereby withheld from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and her dependent Lodges, until such Grand Lodge shall return to the plain and simple principles upon which it was originally established.

" Also, *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of New York has acted hastily and unadvisedly, and we doubt not will retrace its steps when by proper Masonic means it learns all the facts which have driven this Grand Lodge to withhold the right hand of fellowship from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

" ' The Grand Lodge of Florida concur in the report, and adopt the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, withholding Masonic intercourse from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and deprecate the hasty action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi ; but are far from being pleased

with the conduct and regulations of Louisiana, and say that a cumulation of rites is not warranted. They recommend mild and persuasive measures, and rather adhere to the position taken by New York.'

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland adopted a resolution,

"That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana is no longer recognized by the Grand Lodge of Maryland as a regular and legal Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted York Masons.

"Your committee cannot more distinctly express their views on this important subject than by copying the able report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. It coincides so perfectly in sentiment and language with the opinions and expressions of your committee, that they are unwilling to omit a single word :

"Your committee have watched, with pain and regret, the progress of this unfortunate affair. It is a matter of no small moment to behold two independent Masonic associations arrayed against each other, and to hear the sounds of discord in a Temple where peace and brotherly love alone should reign. It is, in the opinion of your committee, clearly and undeniably true, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, by a cumulation or amalgamation of rites of York, Scottish, and Modern Masons, has abandoned the ancient landmarks of the only system of Masonry we are authorized to recognize. Grant the power to overstep the landmarks at one point, and we throw open a field for innovations as boundless as the universe, and perfectly destructive of all that marks the Mason. In 1833, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana united the three orders of Masonry which existed in that State, and by an amalgamation, made those who were *not of us equal to us*, and brought hundreds into the Temple by other means and through other channels than those recognized by the institution. Here was the first improper step ; yet it appears that these facts were published, but passed unnoticed at the time. Among other innovations practiced by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, are these : She permits the sons of Masons of every rite to be initiated into our mysteries before they become of lawful age, to wit, when they are but eighteen years of age. By her regulations, an Ancient York Mason, unless he is also a Scotch and Modern Mason, is disqualified as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. But these regulations we regard as in the highest degree improper and reprehensible. We know of no authority for the initiation of the son of a Mason at an earlier age than any other applicant for that distinction, who may appear at the threshold of the Temple. The second regulation is intolerable, because it destroys the equality of the Craft, and fixes a test to the qualifications for the honors of the Order, unknown to Ancient York Masonry. We do not hesitate to condemn the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. We can find neither warrant nor excuse for her departure from the very plain line of Masonic duty. On the other hand, however, we find not a little difficulty in regard to the course of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. It is regarded as a

fundamental law of our Order, that a Grand Lodge of one State shall not attempt to exercise jurisdiction within the territory of another State, in which there is a Grand Lodge. It will not do for our brethren of Mississippi to declare there exists no Grand Lodge in Louisiana. Such an institution *had* an existence, and was recognized in good faith as a Grand Lodge of York Masons. She was in correspondence with every State in the Union, and was by all the Grand Lodges recognized as a trustworthy association of Masonic brethren. The bold stand taken by Mississippi in defense of the true landmarks, is worthy of all praise. She did well. She would of have done better, in our judgment, if in her eagerness to vindicate the Order, she had asked and awaited a consultation with her sister States, before she declared her act of excommunication. It will hardly be contended that a Grand Lodge may, by a declaration of her own, blot out of existence the Grand Lodge of a neighboring State, and extend *her* arms at once into the territory thus rendered tenantless. She may, and it would be very proper for her to declare, if she so believed, that the Grand Lodge complained of was unworthy the fellowship of the sister Lodges, but a proper regard for the rights of other Grand Lodges made it necessary, in our judgment, to await the action of other Lodges, before jurisdiction is assumed over the territory heretofore governed by the excommunicated Lodge. Your committee refrain from presenting a resolution, but respectfully submit the question to the Grand Lodge.'

"We have received a communication from the Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third degree, established in New York, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. It is a singular fact, that whilst the Grand Lodge of Louisiana claims the right to cumulate the three rites, York, Scotch, and Modern, by virtue of a concordat between the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and the Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third degree, sitting in New Orleans, the Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third degree, sitting in New York, declares 'that in deference to the constitutions of the York Rite practiced in this country, it waives its rights and privileges so far as they relate to the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, which long before the establishment of a Supreme Grand Council in this hemisphere, were under the control of Symbolic Grand Lodges.'

"They further declare that, 'as conservators pledged to preserve the ancient and accepted rite of the thirty-third and last degree pure and inviolate, and free from all unlawful and spurious intermixture or association, this Supreme Grand Council feels itself constrained most unequivocally to renew its former declaration. and solemnly denounce as unlawful and unconstitutional, and protest against the acts and pretensions of all other bodies, under whatever name or title they may exist, claiming to exercise control or authority over *the ancient* and accepted rite of the thirty-third and last degree;' cautioning all brethren, wherever dispersed over the two hemispheres, that *accumulation*

of rites, whether under the designation of Councils, Colleges, or any other denomination whatever, is an anomaly in Freemasonry, fraught with confusion, mischief, and danger to the whole Masonic family, and which never can receive the sanction of the Supreme Grand Council, nor the approval of any intelligent body of Masons, sincerely devoted to the purity, happiness, and prosperity of our well beloved Free and Accepted Masonry.

"Here, strange as it appears, whilst the Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third degree at New York derive the accumulation of rites equally with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana by virtue of her concordat with the Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third degree at New Orleans, defends and attempts to justify the accumulation of rites ; and stranger still, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of New York, that focus of Masonic light, should so soon forget her zeal for the preservation, of the 'ancient landmarks of Masonry,' as to sustain this heresy by specious arguments and her widely extended Masonic influence.

"But we believe the day is not far distant when the tri-color and meteor flag of Louisiana will be trailed in the dust by her own Masons, and that New York, the standard-bearer of our ancient Order, will again throw our banner to the breeze, pure and bright as the clear vault of heaven.

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, in his address, reprobates the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in establishing Lodges in the State of Louisiana. Of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, he says : 'A departure from the ancient customs and landmarks must be reproved in a becoming spirit ; if not heeded, a majority, not a solitary Grand Lodge, can only justify final condemnation.

"The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, say :

"The Grand Lodge of Louisiana, may, for ought your committee know, have done a grievous violence to her constitution, but it seems to your committee that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in assuming jurisdiction in Louisiana, has committed the greatest error of the two.'

"The Grand Lodge of Illinois recommend a retracing of steps on the part of both of Louisiana and Mississippi.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, say :

"That the Grand Lodge of Mississippi transcended its powers, and invaded the rights of a sister Grand Lodge, by establishing subordinate Lodges in Louisiana ; and it is further hoped that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana will change her constitution, and lop off the unnatural accumulative rites, etc., complained of.'

"The Grand Lodge of Virginia, in relation to the controversy between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, disapprove of

the invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi : ' A proceeding which, while it admits the very authority and existence of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, assumes all its lawful power and jurisdiction, and appropriates them to itself, a foreign and distinct Grand Lodge.'

"The Grand Lodge of Georgia disapproves of the course of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

"The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, say : ' In the humble opinion of your committee, Georgia very correctly disapproves the course of Mississippi, but we regret to find she sustains the Grand Lodge of Louisiana in her heresy.'

MASONIC JURISDICTION.

"The Grand Lodge of the State of New York, through its committee on Foreign Correspondence, contends for the right to initiate a citizen of another State, who visits New York, without the consent of the Grand Lodge of the State where the candidate resides, upon the ground, that before a man becomes a Mason, he is subject to no law which any Grand Lodge can enact. With due deference to the Grand Lodge of New York, we consider that she has made an immaterial issue. The question is not whether a citizen is amenable to Masonic law, but whether the Grand Lodge of New York violates the jurisdictional rights of another Grand Lodge. By the ancient constitutions and regulations of the Order, a citizen living within the jurisdiction of a subordinate Lodge cannot be initiated in an adjacent Lodge, without the consent of the Lodge nearest his residence, even in his own State, and under the jurisdiction of the same Grand Lodge. The reason is apparent—it is to be presumed that the character of the candidate is best known to the Lodge nearest his residence, and although the Masonic law does not operate directly upon the citizen candidate, yet he is incidentally controlled by the refusal of the subordinate Lodge more remote from his residence to initiate him. Although a Lodge has no right to to prescribe Masonic law to one not a Mason, yet they have a right to deny the benefit of the institution, to all who refuse to comply with the regulations of the Order. If, then, it be unmasonic for a subordinate Lodge in one State to initiate a candidate residing nearer to a Lodge in the same State, working under the same Grand Lodge, is it not manifestly still more unmasonic for a Lodge in another State, under a different Grand Lodge, to do the same act. It is the duty of every Lodge to guard with vigilance the portals of Masonry, so that the base and unworthy may be excluded ; but the position assumed by the Grand Lodge of New York, is eminently calculated to facilitate the initiation of base men, for it must be admitted, that the vices and depravity of a stranger, an applicant for Masonry, cannot as promptly be detected by a foreign Lodge, as by a Lodge where members from proximity, must be more intimately acquainted with the character of the

applicant. We agree, however, with the Grand Lodge of New York, that a man made a Mason in any legally constituted Lodge, cannot be declared a clandestine Mason, or refused the rights and benefits of the Order. The fault is in the Lodge improperly initiating the candidate, and it should be alone amenable.

"We hope the Grand Lodge of New York will abandon the exercise of this power, even if she continues to believe she has the right, as its exercise must inevitably result in injury to our sacred Order, which she so ardently cherishes and sustains.

"Your committee present the following resolution, similar to resolutions lately passed by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Tennessee :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge fully concedes to the Lodges of Georgia and Alabama, upon our borders, the right and privilege of receiving and initiating in their Lodges citizens of Florida, residing on our borders, whose residence shall be nearer such Lodge than any Lodge in Florida. Provided, the same privilege is accorded by the Grand Lodges of Georgia and Alabama to the Lodges of Florida."

THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY IN FAVOR OF THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

"We make the following extract from the Grand Master's Report, to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey :

"At our last year's communication, a resolution was passed, dispensing with the Grand Representative system, as a means of communication between us and other Grand Lodges, throughout the United States. I would therefore suggest the propriety of reconsidering that resolution, and again let us be recognized in the different Grand Lodges, and again be known as the Grand Lodge of New Jersey."

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

"The Grand Lodge of New York has done the Grand Lodge of Florida the honor of appointing a special committee, to whom was referred the transactions of the Grand Lodge of Florida, in relation to this subject. We at all times read with pleasure and profit the able reports of the Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York. We have no hesitation in saying that we consider this report unanswerable. This declaration may at first view seem inexplicable to the Grand Lodge of New York, and in contradiction to the opinions of this Grand Lodge on this subject, as expressed by the committee of Foreign Correspondence, at our last communication ; but if the Grand Lodge of New York will examine with care, the report of the committee, and the ninth Section of the eighth Article, they will find that virtually there is no difference of opinion on this subject between the Grand Lodges of New York and Florida, and that this Grand Lodge has no false step to retrace. In drawing up the report at our last communication, the Chairman of the committee, the better to illicit truth, and to enable the Grand Lodge to decide understandingly, cited the decisions of the several Grand Lodges *pro* and *con*, but this Grand Lodge did not assent to the position of any Grand Lodge, except that of Kentucky, which has been adopted as

the ninth Section of the eighth Article of the Constitution of Florida, viz. : 'When the *deformity* of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being *instructed* in the mysteries of the Craft, the admission will not be an infringement of the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of Freemasonry.'

"The committee, in continuation of the report, stated :

" 'This may be true, if *properly construed*, but your committee fear it is opening a door to admit a dangerous innovation, and regret any attempt has ever been made to explain the *Ancient Charges*, the observance of which, must at least remain a matter of conscience and judgment.'

"The committee then presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

"*Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Florida, That the ninth Section of the eighth Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, shall not be construed by the Subordinate Lodges, so as to authorize any innovation upon the ancient landmarks of the Order.*

"We have no doubt, that according to this construction of the ninth Section of the eighth Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, we should as promptly exclude any candidate for the same cause, as the Grand Lodge of New York. If we have anything to regret, it is making the construction of the Ancient Charges a part of our Constitution, which we regard as useless, even if there be no doubt of its correctness. But it is at last nothing very material whether the construction of the Ancient Charges be verbal or written. Some construction must be given by the Lodge to all the Ancient Charges and Constitutions of Masonry, as cases occur before the Lodge. The Book of Constitutions declares, 'that the men made Masons must be free-born, of mature age, and of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered, at the time of their making, *but* no woman or eunuch.' Of every requisite the Lodge must judge. There are other requisites not here specified. He must be of sound mind, and possessed of the Masonic senses, seeing, hearing, and feeling. The exclusion of women and eunuchs are positive Masonic prohibitions, which we are bound to obey, without inquiring into the motives or reasons which induced the patriarchs of our Order to exclude them. But every intelligent Mason must be convinced that the prohibition is founded in reason. But, in relation to the requisites for initiation, we know that without any one of them, the candidate is incapable of being instructed fully in the science of Masonry, as all are necessary for Masonic instruction—none can be dispensed with. But here again the question occurs. We know what dismemberment is, but at what point does symmetrical proportion of form cease, and deformity commence? The requisite sense of seeing, hearing, feeling, and intellect of the candidate, must be at last submitted to the judgment of the Lodge, that the Ancient Charges, though positive as a mandate can be, may receive a reasonable construction. On this account

we have said in Section nine, Article eight of the Constitution : 'When the *deformity* of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of the Craft,' &c. From the paucity of language, no better word could be selected to convey our meaning. But intelligent Masons must know, that physical as well as mental requisites, are absolutely necessary for the instruction of the candidate.

"The Grand Lodge of Kentucky resolved, that the decision of Morrison Lodge, No. 103, refusing to admit a visitor who was born blind, is correct.

"We make the following extract from the address of the Grand Master of New Jersey :

" 'I received, from the Lodge at Ashley, a petition for a dispensation to initiate into our Order a gentleman of high respectability, who unfortunately has been maimed. I refused my assent, with the provision, however, that I would lay the petition before you for your action. I now redeem my pledge, and suggest that we adhere to the injunction of our first Most Excellent Grand Master *Solomon* : 'Remove not the ancient landmarks, which our fathers have set.' I have also refused a similar request from the Lodge of which I am a member. The fact that the most distinguished Masonic body on earth has recently removed one of the landmarks, should teach us to be careful how we touch those ancient boundaries.'

"Your committee, in conclusion, have the satisfaction to state that Masonry is flourishing in all our borders, and keeps pace with the rapid increase of our Order in the United States. Truth is mighty, and will prevail. All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*"

The report of the committee on Propositions and Grievances, in relation to non-affiliating brethren, heretofore laid on the table, was taken up, and after some discussion, Brother Thomas Brown offered, as a substitute, the following :

"WHEREAS, It appears that there are a number of Master Masons residing in this jurisdiction, who are not members of any regular Lodge : *And whereas*, it is the duty of all good Masons, made binding by their obligations, which they cannot, without censure, disregard, to obtain and continue membership in some regular Lodge, or contribute their mite to the charity fund of the same : *And whereas*, it is also right and proper that this Grand Lodge should be in possession of the names of all worthy Masons residing within its jurisdiction : Therefore, it is

"Resolved, That all the Lodges working under this jurisdiction, be notified and required to ascertain and enroll the names of all Master Masons, in good standing, residing within their respective jurisdictions, and admonish them of the duty which they are under of becoming members of some regular Lodge ; or, if from remote residence, old age, or infirmity, or other good cause, it is inconvenient for any to affiliate, that then they be requested to contribute, if their pecuniary circumstances will allow of it, the sum of \$3 annually, to the Secretary of the Lodge nearest their residence, for the

use of the charity fund of such Lodge ; and that all the subordinate Lodges, under this jurisdiction make full return of the same in their annual returns to this Grand Lodge, particularly specifying the names of all non-affiliating Masons residing in each respective subordinate jurisdiction ; the names of those who obtained membership, of those who contribute to the charity fund without membership, and of those who refuse membership and contribution, for the further action of the Grand Lodge.

“Resolved, further, That all worthy Masons, who are unable to pay dues or contributions, may be received by any Lodge within-whose jurisdiction they reside, to full membership, and have their dues remitted, and that the Lodge shall not be held liable for dues for such members to the Grand Lodge, but shall account to the Grand Lodge for all who shall contribute without membership the same dues as are paid for members.”

Which were read and adopted, and after the usual orders and business the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

RICHARD K. CALL, *Grand Master.*

JNO. B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA, *January 18, 1850.*

Brother R. B. HILTON.

Dear Sir:—The undersigned, a committee raised for that purpose, have the pleasure to inclose a copy of a resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge, and request that you will, at your convenience, furnish the copy of your Address, as desired by the Grand Lodge.

From us individually, please accept our congratulations on the specimen of work you have exhibited, and we pray you may enjoy the blessings of health, long life, and successful labors.

With fraternal regard,

We are yours, very truly,

THOMAS BROWN,
JOHN P. DUVAL,
CHARLES E. DYKE.

“The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, THOMAS DOUGLAS, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to Brother HILTON, for the able Oration by him this day delivered, and that a committee be appointed to present the same, and solicit a copy thereof for publication.

“Whereupon Brothers Brown, Duval, and Dyke were appointed on the above resolution.”

The above is a true copy from the minutes of the Grand Lodge.

JOHN B. TAYLOR,

Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

TALLAHASSEE, *January 19, 1850.*

Brothers:—I have received your note with the resolution which accompanied it. Regard to the wishes of the Grand Lodge leads me, in opposition to my own judgment, to furnish a copy of the Address for publication. I feel deeply obliged to the Grand Lodge for the compliment which it has paid me, and to you, gentlemen, for your congratulations and kind wishes.

With the highest respect,

R. B. HILTON.

Gov. THOMAS BROWN, P. G. M., }
Gen. JOHN P. DUVAL, P. G. M., } *Committee.*
Rev. CHAS. E. DYKE, G. C., }

ADDRESS

DELIVERED BEFORE THE GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA,

JANUARY THE 17th, A. L. 5850.

BY BROTHER R. B. HILTON,
GRAND ORATOR.

M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren—Ladies and Gentlemen:

"WE meet in commemoration of an Institution, which, if we may believe the traditions handed down from generation to generation, is the oldest of an earthly origin now in being. Masonry, variously modified, has come down to us from the years beyond the fall of the Roman Empire. Long, long before the language in which I now address you had become a medium of thought, Masonry flourished—blessed the earth by its presence—ennobled man by its influence. Through sunshine and rain, in the midst of persecution and over opposition—suffering, but not complaining, stricken by the hand of violence, but not striking back again, overwhelmed with opprobrium, to which it replied not in words of bitterness, or with railing for railing—it has held, and is holding its course—it has run, and is running its race. In the midst of decay, it has withstood corruption. In the midst of revolutions, it has remained unshaken. It has seen Empires arise, has marked their progress, admired their greatness, felt their power, and witnessed their fall. Since Masonry has been in being, creeds and superstitions have sprung up, enlisted duped multitudes as believers, been propagated by converts, who deemed them eternal as Truth, but have now forever passed away—the fact of their existence only revealed to us by the antiquary, and the curious inquirer into the secrets of the past.

"But Masonry is scarcely more remarkable for the antiquity of its existence than for the extent (I had almost said omnipresence) of its spread. Having its origin among the most intelligent, its chief seats and favorite abodes have ever been the enlightened portions of the globe. But, overleaping the barriers of hostile governments, conflicting customs, and discordant languages, wherever man could be found holding, or capable of receiving, the doctrine of one Supreme Architect of the Universe, there has Masonry offered him its benefits. Other Institutions have been designed for particular nations, and been adapted to particular eras in the world's advancement, to specified conditions of society and forms of government. Not so with Masonry.

Semper ubique, its motto, it is suited to all ages, and spreads itself among all but the most barbarous nations. Knowing no classes but the bond and the free, no distinction in faith, but between him who believes in God and him who denies his being—its doors are closed only upon the Atheist and the slave.

"The question very naturally arises, how is it that Masonry has lived so long and spread so wide? Wherein lies its vital principle, its expansive energy? The same question has been asked, in relation to other institutions, Divine and human—in relation to Christianity—in relation to Mohammedanism. As to Christianity, how happens it, that springing up among a despised people, and propagated by illiterate disciples, it, in a few centuries, usurped the temples of time-honored superstitions? The answer is, Christianity had God for its Author, and employed Divine Agency in its propagation. They who will not accept this explanation, must admit that the problem remains unsolved. In regard to Mohammedanism, which, after an existence of twelve centuries, numbers a hundred million of believers—it was propagated by the sword, and has been upheld by the power of civil governments. Masonry, unlike Christianity, claims no Divine founder, nor has it been spread by superhuman energy. Nor like Mohammedanism does it owe its origin to fraud nor its dissemination to force. Whence, then, its long continued existence, its almost unbounded prevalence? The explanation of these facts, all sufficient, and entirely satisfactory to the Craft, at least, is to be sought in the character of the Institution. Masonry has maintained its long existence by virtue of its inherent excellence, its adaption to the wants, the weaknesses, the requirements of man's nature, alleviating his sufferings, elevating him intellectually, and improving him morally.

"Your attention is directed to its influence upon the MIND and the HEART. I pass by the external advantages of the Institution, upon which so much might be said—that, for instance, by which a brother is recognized among strangers—yea, among hostile savages, in moments of keenest hatred—recognized, and by a blood-thirsty foe protected as a friend and embraced as a brother. Nor shall I touch upon the charitable character of the Craft, limited as that word is, to the relief of the distressed, to feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and carrying the joys of sympathy to the despairing and disconsolate. These are excellencies which all appreciate—which call forth the willing applause of its friends, which extort reluctant admiration from its foes. The characteristics to which your attention is invited, though addressing themselves little to the cognizance of the senses, and veiled in their modes of operation from the gaze of the uninitiated rise, in the sublimity of their importance, high above any outward and physical benefits. I refer to the arrangements which Masonry provides in the Temple dedicated to her service, for the intellectual cultivation and moral improvement of its members—teaching

by its solemn forms, its imposing and significant symbols, its instructive and sublime mysteries, that the mind must be cultivated, and aiding in its cultivation—that the heart must be improved, and laboring for its improvement.

“These in their Order.

“The sciences of Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Arithmetic, Geometry, Music, and Astronomy, are subjects of the Mason’s especial attention. He is taught diligence in his daily avocations, that time may be husbanded for the improvement of the mind, by the acquisition of knowledge. If, after all the teachings, and despite all the warnings and admonitions of the Craft, he still remain in ignorance, his is the fault and his the loss—it is perhaps to the discredit—it is not by the consent of the institution. He may forget his obligations and reject his opportunities—those opportunities are nevertheless offered—his forgetfulness does not cancel his obligations—they remain, ever and anon rising up in condemnation of his negligence.

“And may I not appeal to you, my brothers, to discharge the obligations which you owe to Masonry and to yourselves in this regard. Cicero in his *De Oratore*, exclaims, ‘what a triumph for the orator, that in the gift of speech by which men are distinguished from the animal creation, he should be distinguished from other men.’ The remark may be extended to all the departments of mental action—to the mind itself; and as by reason man is elevated above the brutes that perish, what an achievement it would be, in reason itself, to rise above others. How little are multitudes of our fellow-beings in advance of the lower order of the creation. They build themselves houses to dwell in—so does the beaver. They lay up supplies against a day of want—so do the ant and the bee. Certain instincts they have—an instinctive love of money, a peacock’s love of show. But what power of thought have they acquired? What elevation of sentiment—of feeling—of purpose? How limited the range of their observation—how confined the circle of their ideas. How deplorable the prejudices and superstitions in which ignorance keeps them enthralled. Place before you an example of this large class: To his intellectual vision how dark is all around him. He sees the sun, as dashing away the mists of morning, he comes forth from his chamber in the East, rejoicing as a strong man to run a race. He shrinks back from the blaze of his meridian brightness—he glances at the bright orb again, as, in unspeakable glory, it sinks beneath the western wave. But he looks upon it only ‘with the eye of an ox.’ The moon and the stars which people immensity, are to him but the dim lights by which the traveler threads his path, and the mariner guides his bark. All the past, the records of his race, the triumphs and glorious achievements of his species, are written—but he reads them not. In his difficulties, his perplexities, his discouragements, his sorrows, there comes to him no word of hope from the days of old. No example of deathless ener-

gy—no Hannibal—no Athanasius awakens him from despair. No Brutus, no Thermopylæ warms his patriotism. No Luther exalts him to moral heroism—no Job to patient endurance, no Columbus to unshaken self-reliance. No Julius Cæsar, no Shakespeare, inflames his admiration, in contemplation of prodigies of intellectual greatness. Literature, which it has been said, so truthfully and beautifully, ‘brings gladness to eyes that fail with wakefulness and tears, and ache for the dark house and the long sleep,’ is all around him, but he has no organ by which he can avail himself of its consolations. Poetry, with its enchanting melodies, its magnificent imagery and glorious conceptions, offers no sedative to his cares. None of the creations of fancy, no romance, no written eloquence, can touch that insensate heart.

“Masonry, whose other name is *LIGHT*, seeks to dispel this deplorable darkness from the minds of her votaries. She endeavors to teach them truth, to store their minds with knowledge. The aid which she can impart is given freely, cheerfully, and affectionately. When that is exhausted, they are commended to other sources, by the most urgent admonitions and oft repeated charges.

“Brethren, are we wise if we fail to avail ourselves, to the utmost, of her instructions, and turn a deaf ear to her admonitions?

“‘Knowledge is power;’ yes, in how many senses—power over others, power over ourselves, power over nature and her laws, enabling us to press them into our service, and make them obedient to our will, power over the trials of life, its cares, its sorrows, its misfortunes, which it enables us to forget, beguile, and subdue.

“Who shall estimate the value to its possessor, in the pleasure which it affords him, of a cultivated literary taste? It is the sixth sense, scarcely less valued by its owner than feeling, smelling, tasting, hearing, or seeing. Imagine an individual bereft of one of these—how deeply would he awaken your sympathy? Suppose him deprived of the power of feeling, and all the pleasures of the sensation of touch, through whose heart and breast the cordial grasp of the hand of friendship, or the embrace of love, sends no thrill of delight, that to him the kiss of a mother, or of a sister, or of one dearer than either, is but the cold and unfeeling contact of marble. Or conceive him destitute of the sense of taste, cut off from the pleasures of the table, to whom the richest viands are tasteless, the most delightful drinks insipid; or that the sense of sight is wanting—he is blind—nature, in her thousand-fold forms of magnificence and beauty, is a blank—scenery, infinitely variegated, has no charm; spring clothes itself in verdure, autumn in golden hues—the one brings no joy, the other no healing and soothing to his spirit; the face of female loveliness made doubly fascinating by smiles of innocence and truthfulness, brings no delight to the soul imprisoned in that house of darkness; or he is deaf! the sense of hearing is sealed up. To the delight of sweet converse of friend with

friend, he is a stranger. The cataract roars, the ocean swells in its majestic heavings, but no emotions of the sublime are awakened by the sounds. Music can never thrill his breast with rapture ; the melody of song, of harp, of viol, the organ's deep peal—this is enchantment for others, not for him. These are senses possessed by mankind generally, and he who is bereft of any of them, deeply awakens our sympathy. But there is another *sense* which each must acquire for himself, by study and reading, which once acquired, how rich and unalloyed the pleasure it affords ! I mean a taste for literature. That sense which enables its possessor to revel in the luxuries of poetry and written eloquence, which makes Milton and Shakspeare more than meat and drink to him. For friends with whom to associate, he is not dependent upon the vicinity of his residence, upon the favor or caprices of society ; he has them in the choicest spirits of all ages. And these friends, too, to adopt the far more beautiful language of another, stand by him in all vicissitudes—comforters in sorrow, nurses in sickness, companions in solitude. ‘These are friendships which are exposed to no danger from occurrences by which other attachments are weakened or dissolved. Time glides by, fortune is inconsistent, tempers are soured, bonds which seemed indissoluble are daily sundered by interest, by emulation, or caprice. But no such cause can affect the silent converse which we hold with the highest of human intellects. That placid intercourse is disturbed by no jealousies or resentments. These are the old friends who are never seen with new faces, who are the same in wealth and poverty, in glory and obscurity.’* They are ever at his command, they are never in his way.

“But Masonry not only imparts to us knowledge, it teaches morality ; it not only demands the cultivation of the intellect, it more impressively requires improvement of the heart. Never was there an institution of earthly origin which taught a code of sublimer morals by more imposing forms, more significant symbols, and more impressive mysteries. Masonry teaches us to do to our neighbor as we would that he should do unto us. It demands that we be temperate in our pleasures, just in our dealings, prudent in our actions, firm under our afflictions, truthful in our converse, and kind in our feelings. To profanity, she gives no license. The Mason has scarcely crossed the threshold of the Temple, when he is taught never to mention the name of Deity without that reverence due to the Great Architect of the Universe.

“We have as our tenets, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. As our four perfect points and essential cardinal virtues, Temperance, Fortitude, Truth, and Justice. To all the admonitions which can be brought from other sources in condemnation of drunkenness, she adds one of most solemn import, which is peculiarly her own. That the members

* Macaulay.

of the Craft shall not acquire a habit, the indulgence of which may lead them 'to disclose some of those valuable secrets which they have promised to conceal, and never reveal ; and which would subject them to the contempt and detestation of all good Masons.'

" Again, I say, never was there an institution of earthly origin which taught more perfect morals ; and it is to the moral elevation of the Craft, their advancement in virtue, that she directs her highest efforts and most persevering endeavors. If, alas ! her instructions and admonitions be fruitless, the fault is ours, not hers ; for what could she do that she has not done in this behalf ? I speak to many who are wise in her mysteries ; they will judge what I say. How deep and overwhelming the condemnation of him, who professing to be a Mason, is a bad man ! I know no condition more deplorably hopeless than his. When the light that is in him has become darkness, how great is that darkness !

" How much, and with what great propriety, might at this Masonic celebration, be said in behalf of *Virtue* ! It has been said that by mental cultivation, men are elevated above brutes to the dignity of manhood ; it may now be said, that it is by improvement of the heart that men rise towards the sublime position of angels, even assimilating themselves to the Great Architect Himself in some of His attributes. And it is inexpressibly gratifying, my brothers, to know that, if we cannot all excel in knowledge ; if early neglect of the mind and opportunities ; if pressure of business, poverty, or even natural distaste, forbid us becoming learned men, none of these make it impossible for us to become good men ; and if the element of the sublime enter into aught of man's actions or endeavors, surely it is into his efforts to become better. Place before yourselves a fellow-being, whose earnest, persevering, sleepless exertions are to discharge all his duties ; to subdue and regulate his passions ; to obtain a mastery over a naturally ungovernable temper ; to banish all envy and enmity from his heart ; whose resolute determination, consistently acted upon, is never to speak that which is not true, nor to judge that which is not kind ; who has ever before his mind some exalted *beau ideal* of excellence, which he is striving to attain to, by unremitting watchfulness, by frequent self-examinations ; improving and amending in each to-day what was done amiss yesterday ; what, I ask, can earth offer more worthy of admiration and homage than such a man ?

" A heathen philosopher has exclaimed, in a transport of rapture, what ardent love would virtue inspire, if she could be seen ! Do we, my brothers, strive to commend her to our species by embodying her in ourselves—still more do we strive to commend to those without our noble Craft, in whose prosperity we are so much interested, and whose good name we hold so dear, by becoming ourselves living, breathing, tangible, and visible representations and exemplifications of her sublime teachings ! Well might I exclaim, what ardent love would

Masonry inspire, if she could be seen translated and transfigured in our acts and persons from her closed temples, so as to address herself through us to the cognizance and senses of mankind ! Should not these considerations commend themselves to the attention of members of the Craft ? There are those of you whose interest in Masonry is such that you would willingly incur pecuniary sacrifices for her advancement ; who would both labor and suffer for her good. May I ask them, do their lives exemplify her character, and do they thus win for her 'golden opinions ?' It is not enough, if we would secure for the Craft the regard of the good, that we *tell* them she inculcates the purest and sublimest morals. We must *show*, by our conduct, that such are her teachings. Abstractions cannot deeply enlist the feelings of men. They must have images presented to their minds—truth embodied before they fall in love with her. This principle has been shown by an eloquent writer, in one of his most brilliant passages, to have had much to do with the rapid dissemination of Christianity itself, as contrasted with Judaism. God, the uncreated, the incomprehensible, the invisible, says he, attracted few worshipers. A philosopher might admire so noble a conception, but the crowd turned away in disgust from words that presented no image to their minds. It was before Deity, embodied in human form, walking among men, partaking of their infirmities, leaning on their bosoms, weeping over their graves, and bleeding on the Cross, that the prejudices of the synagogue, and the doubts of the academy, and the fasces of the lictor were humbled in the dust. So as to Masonry, if we would disarm all animosity and silence all opposition, and remove all obstacles in the way of its universal spread among men—to their good and its own honor—let us embody her principles and teachings, and become, I will not say wiser and better than others—that might be invidious—but wiser and better than we were before we became members of the Order.

"Now that I have finished, is it a fact that the fairer portion of my hearers are turning away with impatience from the contemplation of a subject in which they can feel no interest ? To them I add, in all sincerity, two remarks, contained in as many sentences. As regards *herself*, woman, with purer instincts, and warmer sensibilities, and stronger religious feelings than man—cut off, too, from many of the temptations which make him worse—needs not, I hope, the influences of Masonry. But as regards the varied and deeply interesting relations which she sustains to others, it is not a subject in which she can feel no concern : it has an important bearing upon all these relations ; for it seeks to give to the daughter a kinder father, to the sister a more affectionate brother, to the mother a nobler son, and to the wife a worthier and more devoted husband."

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 13, 1851.

T H O M A S D O U G L A S, *Grand Master.*

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday the thirteenth day of January, A. D., 1851, A. L. 5851, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge, and was opened in AMPLE FORM and with prayer.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. RICHARD K. CALL, Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
W. JACOB ELIOT, as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. S. S. KNIGHT, as Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

P. G. M. JOHN P. DUVAL, members, and visitors.

The Grand Secretary reported a full representation of subordinate Lodges.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Brothers Thomas Hayward, Boardman, and Fletcher, a committee on Returns and Credentials, who made the following report, in part :

The committee on Returns find the following Lodges represented :

From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—John B. Taylor, Worshipful Master ; S. S. Knight, Senior Warden ; Robert S. Hayward, Junior Warden ; A. A. Fisher, Representative.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 3—Benjamin G. Alderman, Representative.

From Hiram Lodge, No. 5—

From Franklin Lodge, No. 6—James J. Griffin, Junior Warden and Proxy for W. M. G. S. Hawkins, Representative.

From Madison Lodge, No. 11—D. S. Graham, Representative.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—I. H. Bronson, Representative.

From Dade Lodge, No. 14—Joseph B. Lancaster, Proxy for Worshipful Master.

From Escambia Lodge, No. 15—W. Anderson, Proxy Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Warden.

From Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16—W. Anderson, Proxy for Worshipful Master and Representative.

From Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17—D. G. Gunn, Representative.

From Centreville Lodge, No. 18—J. Eliot, Representative and W. M. ; C. C. Fletcher, Senior Warden ; George Fisher, Junior Warden.

From Marion Lodge, No. 19—

From Gee Lodge, No. 21—Samuel Boardman, Worshipful Master.

From Hamilton Lodge, No. 22—A. G. Johnson, Representative.

From Newport Lodge, No. 23—R. W. B. Hodgson, Proxy Worshipful Master and Senior Warden.

From Pensacola Naval Lodge, No. 24—W. Anderson Proxy for Worshipful Master and Senior Warden.

On motion, the reading of the proceedings of the last communication was dispensed with, printed proceedings being in the hands of all the members.

Brother Boardman offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That a public installation of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Florida, be held on Thursday, January 16th, at eleven o'clock, A. M., and that Brother Davidson, of Washington Lodge, No. 2, be requested to deliver an oration before the Grand Lodge, in one of the churches of this city."

Which was adopted.

On motion, Brothers Boardman, Thomas Hayward, and J. H. Verdier, were appointed to inform Brother Davidson of the request of the Grand Lodge, and to make arrangements necessary on the occasion.

Brother Thomas Douglas, Deputy Grand Master, offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That a committee, to consist of three members, be appointed to procure a suitable jewel and collar for the Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, and that said committee be authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge, for the amount of the cost thereof."

Which was adopted, and Brothers Douglas, Taylor, and Shine appointed.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Credentials and Returns—Brothers T. HAYWARD, BOARDMAN, and FLETCHER.
On Visiting Brethren—Brothers THOMAS HAYWARD, SHINE, and ELIOT.
On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers FISHER, FLETCHER, and ANDERSON.
On Accounts—Brothers BOARDMAN, R. S. HAYWARD, KNIGHT, and GUNN.
On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers STEPHENS, VERDIER, and ALDERMAN.
On Ways and Means—Brothers ELIOT, GRIFFIN, STOCKTON, and A. A. FISHER.
On Unfinished Business—Brothers G. FISHER, A. G. JOHNSON, and HODGSON.
On Education—Brothers ELIOT, BOARDMAN, STEPHENS, and POPE.
On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers JOHN P. DUVAL, THOMAS BROWN, J. B. TAYLOR, JESSE COE, JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, and ROBERT BUTLER, Past Grand Masters.

Brother Boardman offered the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That a special committee of three members be appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to take into consideration the subject of compensating the representatives of the subordinate Lodges for attendance upon the Grand annual communications of the Grand Lodge.”

Which was adopted and Brothers Douglas, Taylor, and Shine appointed said committee.

Brother Hodgson offered the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That all Master. Masons, of good standing, now sojourning among us, be invited to seats in this Grand Lodge.”

Which was adopted.

Read letter from Brother Jeremy L. Cross, presenting a copy of his *Masonic Chart and Hieroglyphic Monitor*.

Whereupon Brother Douglas offered the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary make to Brother Jeremy L. Cross a suitable acknowledgement for the receipt of his very valuable present of a copy of his *Chart and Hieroglyphic Monitor*.”

Which was adopted.

On motion of Past Grand Master John P. Duval, a select committee, consisting of Brothers Duval, Hodgson, and R. S. Hayward, was appointed to take into consideration the salary of the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment until to-morrow at seven o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 14, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

The committee on Credentials and Returns made the following report :

“ The committee on Credentials and Returns beg leave to report that they have examined the returns from Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; Madison Lodge, No. 11 ; St. John's Lodge, No. 12 ; Dade Lodge, No. 14 ; Escambia Lodge, No. 15 ; Santa Rosa Lodge,

No. 16 ; Eucheanna Lodge,* No. 17 ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18 ; Marion Lodge, No. 19 ; Gee Lodge, No. 21 ; Hamilton Lodge, No. 22 ; Newport Lodge, No. 23 ; Hillsborough Lodge, U. D., and Alachua Lodge, U. D. Of these reports, those from Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Madison Lodge, No. 11 ; St. John's Lodge No. 12 ; Dade Lodge, No. 14 (this Lodge presents reports for 1849-50) ; Escambia Lodge, No. 15 ; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16 ; Eucheanna Lodge, No. 17 ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18 ; Marion Lodge, No. 19 ; Gee Lodge, No. 21 ; and Hamilton Lodge, No. 22, were found correct and in form. Harmony Lodge, No. 3, presents returns for 1849-50. On return for 1849, ten members are reported as having withdrawn on December 27th, 1848. These members, your committee conceive, should have been reported as withdrawn on the return for 1848. On the same return, Brother H. B. Banks is reported as a Master Mason, but no dues are paid for him. He is probably a Minister of the Gospel, but is not so returned. On return for 1850, two members, viz., Charles Sims and E. H. Alderman, are returned as having 'dues remitted by resolution of the Grand Lodge ;' but without referring to date of said resolution, or giving any other data by which your committee could arrive at the reasons for said remission. Two other brethren, viz., B. H. Banks and D. P. Everett, are reported 'no dues,' but no reason given for their not paying dues. It is probably they are Ministers of the Gospel, but should have been so reported. Upon this supposition, your committee recommend that the the returns be received.

"The return of Newport Lodge is incorrect, in not reporting names of candidates rejected by the Lodge. The recapitulation is not made in the usual form. The committee recommend that Newport Lodge have permission to amend their return.

"The return of Hillsborough Lodge, U. D., is correct and in form.

"Your committee remark that, in some of the returns, the date of initiation, passing, and raising, is inserted, though said initiations, passing, and raisings had taken place years previously. This is unnecessary, the dates only of those who have been initiated, passed, and raised, during the year embraced in the return, should be inserted. Other returns will probably be received, and your committee submit this as a report in part ; and if necessary, would beg leave to report again.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"SAMUEL BOARDMAN, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and concurred in.

Brother Duval, chairman of the select committee, made the following report :

"The committee to whom was referred the subject of the salary of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they

have had the same under consideration. Your committee find the following in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin at the December communication, A. L. 5849, A. D. 1849 :

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be allowed two dollars and fifty cents per day for his services during the session of the Grand Lodge, and also one hundred dollars as extra compensation for discharging all the duties of his office during the ensuing year.

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be allowed fifty dollars in addition to his salary for the present year, as compensation for his greatly increased duties.

"Resolved, That the tenth Section of Article seven of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended by striking out the words 'fifty dollars,' in the third line, and inserting 'not less than one hundred and fifty dollars.'

"Which is respectfully submitted,

"JOHN P. DUVAL,

"ROBERT S. HAYWARD."

Which was read, and the resolution increasing the compensation of the Grand Secretary fifty dollars adopted, and the proposition to amend the constitution laid on the table.

The committee on By-laws and Dispensations made the following report :

"We, the undersigned committee, being appointed to examine the by-laws under dispensations, having had the same under due consideration, beg leave to report favorably, and consider them to be entirely correct, with the exception that the minutes of Alachua Lodge being not approved by the W. M. of said Lodge, but signed by the Secretary.

"Respectfully,

"A. A. FISHER,

"C. C. FLETCHER."

Which was received and adopted.

On motion,

"Resolved, That a warrant be granted to Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25."

Which was adopted, and Grand Secretary ordered to issue the same.

Also, that a warrant be granted to Alachua Lodge, No. 26.

Which was concurred in and the charter ordered.

Brother Hodgson introduced the following resolution :

"Resolved, That all members having instructions from their Lodges relating to the compensation of delegates, shall lay the same before the special committee appointed to inquire into the same."

Which was received and adopted.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment until to-morrow, at three o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 15, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

Brother Boardman, from the special committee on remunerating the Delegates to the Grand Lodge, made the following report :

"The special committee of five, appointed by the Grand Lodge to take into consideration the propriety of compensating the Representatives of the subordinate Lodges for their attendance upon the annual communications of the Grand Lodge, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave to report—

"That they have had referred to them resolutions from Eucheanna Lodge, No. 17, and Newport Lodge, No. 23. Both these Lodges recommend a compensation to one delegate from each Lodge, at the rate of three dollars per day during their attendance on the sessions of the Grand Lodge, and ten cents per mile for land travel, and his expenses by water, if any. Newport Lodge also recommends that the Delegation be reduced to one from each Lodge, and that he be the W. Master, (or his proxy.) Your committee, however, consider that this rate of compensation is too high, and more than the Grand Lodge, in the present state of its funds, can afford. They consider it right and proper that those Representatives who come up to the Grand Lodge for the express purpose of attending its sessions, should be paid a sum which will enable them to do so without taxing them in the whole amount which they have to expend for that purpose, and should the sum recommended by your committee, not bear the whole of the expense, your committee consider that the Lodge sending up the Representative should be willing to pay the balance. Under the present system it is not always that the Lodges send up the individual whom they would prefer to represent them, but some individual who can or will bear the expense personally, or else they select individuals whom business or pleasure brings up to Tallahassee, and intrust them with the power of a Representative.

"Your committee consider that this state of things should be suffered to exist no longer, and they have come to the unanimous decision to recommend that one Representative from each subordinate Lodge be paid a compensation of two dollars per day for each day's attendance upon the Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and five cents per mile, land travel, and his actual expenses by water (if any).

"Your committee also recommend that the W. M. of the subordinate Lodge should be the individual to whom the compensation be paid, unless the subordinate Lodge expressly directs otherwise. They would also recommend that each individual be required to sign a certificate,

(in such form as may be prescribed by the Grand Secretary), before he can receive his compensation, that he attends the sessions of the Grand Lodge solely for the purpose of attending its communications. In accordance with these views, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

“ Resolved, That one Representative from each subordinate Lodge to the annual communications of the Grand Lodge of Florida, be paid at the rate of two dollars per day for each days’ attendance upon the sessions of the Grand Lodge, and at the rate of five cents per mile for each mile of land travel from the place of his residence to the place where the sessions of the Grand Lodge of Florida are held, and back, to be computed by the nearest mail route, or his actual expenses of travel by water, provided that before receiving such compensation he shall sign a certificate (the form of which shall be prescribed by the Grand Secretary), that he visited the place at which the Grand annual communications are held expressly for the purpose of representing his Lodge in said annual communication.

“ Resolved, That the Worshipful Masters of the subordinate Lodges shall be the individuals receiving said compensation, unless otherwise directed by the subordinate Lodges represented.

“ SAM’L BOARDMAN,
“ THOMAS HAYWARD,
“ D. G. GUNN,
“ J. ELLIOT,
“ BENJ. G. ALDERMAN.”

Which was received and laid on the table.

The Craft were then called to refreshment until 7 o’clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 15, seven o’clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year, when the following brothers were duly elected to the respective offices named :

M. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Grand Master.
R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. J. M. W. DAVIDSON, Grand Senior Warden,
R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. CHARLES E. DYKE, Grand Chaplain,

On motion, the Craft were called to refreshment until half-past nine o’clock, to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, January 16, nine and a-half o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

After the necessary arrangements for the procession, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment during pleasure, and the procession was formed, and proceeded to the Methodist church, where Brother J. M. W. Davidson delivered an interesting and eloquent oration. The Grand Officers were then installed, and after benediction from the Grand Chaplain, returned to the Masonic Hall, when the Craft were called to labor.

*Past Grand Master Call moved that a vote of thanks be presented to Brother Davidson, for his learned, interesting, and elequent oration, and that a committee be appointed to wait on him, and solidit a copy for publication.

The Grand Master appointed Brothers Call, Pope, and Lancaster said committee.

Brother Verdier, from a select committee appointed for that purpose, offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were, on motion, adopted :

"Man that is born of woman is of few days, and full of trouble ; he cometh forth like a flower and is cut down : he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not ; his life is swifter than a weaver's shuttle." Such is the state of man. "To-day he puts forth the buds of hope, to-morrow he blossoms and bears his blushing honors thick upon him, next day comes an envious frost and nips the shoot ; and when he thinks his greatness is most aspiring, he falls like autumnal leaves, to enrich our mother earth." Death has been in our midst—its resistless hand has been laid on one of our number. The West Gate will no longer be opened for our Brother—his footstep will no more be heard in our sacred hall—his voice will no longer be lifted up in council—his accustomed place will know him no more, for "the silver chord is loosed, the golden bowl is broken." Our Brother has been called from the level of time to that undiscovered country whence no earthly traveler returns.

Brother THOMAS JEFFERSON HEIR is no more.

Resolved, That it was with feelings of the deepest grief we learned the untimely and much to be regretted demise of our lamented and well beloved Brother T. J. HEIR. His melancholy death has occasioned Masonry the loss of a bright and shining light, and we, his associates, have been deprived of a highly esteemed friend and companion.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect for our deceased brother, this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of mourning for the space of thirty days.

J. H. VERDIER, *Chairman*.

The Craft were then called to refreshment until 4 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 16, four o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Grand Master,
 R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, Deputy Grand Master.
 R. W. R. B. HODGSON, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary,
 R. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
 W. THOMAS HAYWARD, as Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. D. G. GUNN, as Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

P. G. Masters JOHN P. DUVAL and R. K. CALL, with a due representation, members, and visitors.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz. :

R. W. JOS. B. LANCASTER, District Deputy Grand Master, Southern District.
 R. W. GAD HUMPHRIES, " " " " Eastern "
 R. W. C. C. FLETCHER, " " " " Middle "
 R. W. JOHN CHAIN, " " " " Western "
 R. W. BARTON C. POPE, Grand Orator.
 R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Lecturer.
 W. DANIEL G. McLEAN, Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. R. W. B. HODGSON, Grand Junior Deacon.
 W. J. H. VERDIER, Grand Marshal.
 W. WILLIAM A. FORWARD, Grand Sword-Bearer.
 W. JAMES J. MAGBEE, Grand Pursuivant.
 Brother ALEXANDER H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Treasurer made the following, his annual report :

The Grand Treasurer begs leave to report that he had, at the close of the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge,.....	\$1,237 54
Since the close of the last Grand communication, by the Grand Secretary,..	50 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,287 54
Cr. by amounts paid by order of the Grand Master (voucher No. 1) \$100 00	
By amount paid by order of Grand Master (voucher No. 2).....	135 00
By amount paid by order of Grand Master (voucher No. 3).....	41 00
	<hr/>
	276 00
	<hr/>
Balance on hand,.....	\$1,011 54
All of which is respectfully submitted.	

R. A. SHINE, *Grand Treasurer.*

Which was received, read, and referred to the committee on Accounts.

The report of the special committee on Compensation, laid on the table, was then taken up, and after discussion, adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half past 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, January 7, half-past nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as yesterday.

Brother A. A. Fisher, from the committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, made the following report :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, to whom were referred the By-Laws and Proceedings of Naval Lodge, No. 24, for their consideration, beg leave to report that we find them correct and in proper form.

Respectfully, &c.,

"A. A. FISHER, *Chairman.*"

The following resolutions were moved and adopted unanimously :

"*Resolved*, That Brother Albert G. Mackey, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, be respectfully invited to attend the next regular communication of this Grand Lodge, and Lecture before the same upon the Principles of Ancient-Freemasonry.

"*Resolved further*, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to certify this resolution to Brother Mackey."

SATURDAY, January 18, three o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Grand Master.

R. W. D. S. GRAHAM, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

W. C. C. COFFEE, as Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

P. G. M. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, with a due representation,

Brother Bronson, from a select committee, made the following report :

"The committee to whom was referred the case of Brother James A. Goff, who was expelled from Hillsborough Lodge, report that they have examined the same, and having come to the conclusion that the evidence in the case was not sufficient to justify the expulsion, and that it was also irregular in having been made at a called meeting of the Lodge, they recommend that the proceedings in said case be reversed, and they ask to be discharged.

"I. H. BRONSON, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and concurred in.

Brother Thomas Hayward, from a special committee, made the following report :

"The special committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to revise the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, beg leave to state that they have performed that duty, and give it with pleasure their full assent and sanction.

"THOMAS HAYWARD, *Chairman.*"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"Your committee have received, through the Grand Secretary, the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia annual communication for 1849, and special communication for 1850, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, and California. No proceedings have been received from the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, Louisiana, or Pennsylvania. We know not whether there be a Grand Lodge in Illinois. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, we understand, is opposed to the publication of their proceedings, forgetting their first great Masonic duty, to extend the light of Masonry throughout the world. Your committee will proceed to consider, in alphabetical order, the interesting Masonic subjects discussed and acted on by the several Grand Lodges of the Union.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS AND CANDIDATES.

"By Article 3d of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, Section 3d, it is laid down that 'the general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members and candidates, is that such admission is to be sanctioned by entire unanimity, and so sacred and fundamental does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that no candidate can be initiated or admitted to membership without a unanimous ballot in his favor.' To this rule your committee assent, as it is according to the Constitutions of the Order. Your committee will state, to prevent repetition, that whenever they cite the decisions of a Grand Lodge, their concurrence is understood, unless they express an opinion to the contrary.

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

"The Grand Lodge of Alabama

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge recommend to all other Grand Lodges in correspondence with us to observe the uniform use of the time-honored name [*Ancient*] Free and Accepted Masons.'

APPEALS FROM MASTERS OF GRAND OR SUBORDINATE LODGES.

"The Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, District of Columbia, Ohio, Rhode Island, and other Grand Lodges have decided, that it is not in accordance with ancient Masonic usage to allow an appeal to be taken from the decision of the Worshipful Master. It is his Lodge, and while he continues to be Master, he has a right to rule, and they are bound to obey; but for any undue assumption of authority, he is amenable to the Grand Lodge, which alone has a right to hear and determine such matters.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in their able report, state :

"The Ancient Charges instruct us that "the power of the Master in his Lodge is absolute," and as this is a peculiar feature of our Institution, and those charges most strenuously inculcate submission and the payment of due reverence to the Master, your committee are constrained to admit that the assertion of a right to take an "appeal" from the decision of the Master may look like an innovation, but when it is considered, as stated by the committee of Correspondence of Mississippi, that "appeals are to be regarded as allowed by *courtesy* of the Grand Master, and generally at his own suggestion from diffidence in his own, or out of deference to the opinion of the Lodge, they lose their offensive character, and may still be suffered to stand, when all acquiesce in it, and injury is done to no one.'

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, in commenting on this report, make the following appropriate and correct remarks :

"Your committee observe that, on a subsequent occasion in that Grand Lodge, an appeal was taken from the decision of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. Your committee, in view of the "Ancient Charge," hold that it is wrong to admit an *appeal* even by "*courtesy*," because by these is established ultimately a precedent from which will be claimed the *right to take* appeals. Innovations too readily spring up in the body of Masonry, without the fostering aid of precedents by "*courtesy*."

ALABAMA GRAND LODGE.

"The Grand Master reports the condition of the Order prosperous in that State beyond all former precedent. The number of new Lodges established by dispensation within the last year, twenty-four—more than double the increase of any former year. They have in active work one hundred and five Lodges. The subjects acted on will be found under the appropriate heads. We regret to see that the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, though regularly mailed, have not been received..

APPRENTICES.

"We find that the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin has decided that an Entered Apprentice shall not be refused advancement, except by a vote of a majority of the Lodge, and that a Mason shall be admitted to membership by a vote of two-thirds of the Lodge. The Grand Master in his address says :

"Denying advancement to an Entered Apprentice, or Fellow Craft, by the operation of a single negative in the ballot-box, he considers not only wrong in itself, but also unmasonic. Without sufficient cause shown to the contrary, the advancement may be demanded as a matter of *right*. The single voice is Masonically bound to speak *openly*, in order that the whole Lodge may be enabled to judge on the subject justly and correctly.'

"As we have read with much pleasure the able and elaborate report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, we are utterly astonished at their opinions on this subject. We always supposed if any one rule of Ancient Masonry was more unquestionable than another, it was unanimity in balloting for initiation, passing, and raising. In this view we are sustained by the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Iowa, Maryland, and Ohio, whose proceedings are now before us. On 'the rights of Entered Apprentices,' there will be found an able article by Albert G. Mackey, M.D., Editor of the *Southern and Western Masonic Miscellany*, Volume 1, July, 1850, No. 8, page 234, to which we respectfully call the attention of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. We copy from page 237 the following remarks :

"Viewing the question in this light—and indeed we know of no other in which to view it—it seems to us to be perfectly evident that the peculiar constitution and principles of our Order will require unanimity in the election of a person for initiation, of an Apprentice for a Fellow Craft, and of a Fellow Craft for a Master Mason,' and that 'while no Entered Apprentice can be expelled from the Order, except by a due course of trial, it is competent for the Lodge at any time on a ballot, to refuse to advance him to the second degree. But let it be remembered that the Lodge which refuses to pass an Apprentice on account of any objection to his moral character, or doubt of his worthiness, is bound to give him the advantage of a trial, and at once to expel him if guilty, or, if innocent, to advance him, when otherwise qualified.' See ballot in each degree.

"Your committee, since writing the above remarks, have received No. 12, *Masonic Miscellany*, containing on pages 380–81. a very interesting article on the advancement of Entered Apprentices, ably sustaining the position taken by your committee, to which we respectfully refer the members of the Grand Lodge.

AUDITOR OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN.

"This officer is unknown to Ancient Masonry.

BALTIMORE CONVENTION.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire reports that the standard agreed upon in 5843, in Baltimore, is understood to have been generally accepted, but not with entire unanimity, and that the Grand Lodge of Ohio had rescinded the vote whereby, in 1843, it agreed to the Baltimore standard."

BARNEY, JOHN—LECTURES OF.

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, in his address, remarks :

"There is much complaint in the Grand Lodges of several of the

States about a want of uniformity of work in the different secular Lodges. That want of uniformity exists to a considerable extent among our own Lodges, and, as far as I have been able to trace its source, I entertain the opinion that it originated with the lecturing of Jeremiah L. Cross in this jurisdiction more than thirty years ago. I am informed by a worthy brother—my senior in Masonry by several years, and now one of the officers of the Grand Lodge—that the lectures of Brother Cross were examined into under the authority of the Grand Lodge, and were disapproved. Our records show that at the communication of this Grand body, in October, A. D. 1819, a committee reported in favor of recommending Brother Cross' *'Masonic Chart, or Hieroglyphic Monitor,'* to the patronage of the Fraternity, and that this report was *rejected*. So far as my information extends, I have found very few elderly intelligent brethren who even appreciated very highly either Brother Cross' lectures or his book. There are some exceptions, however, and the brethren who form them appear to adhere with great tenacity to everything that proceeded as instruction from Brother Cross, for no better reason, that I could ever ascertain, than that he published a book of Masonic pictures. The Grand Lodge, however, long since placed upon record its opinion of the lectures which it did approve, and they were not those of Brother Cross. At the communication of October, A. D. 1817, the lectures, as taught by Brother John Barney, were examined by an intelligent committee of the Grand Lodge, who reported in favor, and that the report was adopted by the Grand Lodge, that Brother Barney lectured under the authority also of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and that they are the same lectures now taught in Massachusetts. In Lodges where the teachings of Brother Cross continue to predominate, I have always observed a strong disposition to overload the work with extrinsic ornament, and occasionally with some things not so harmless as that.'

BIBLE.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, in commenting on the Holy Bible, express themselves in the following chaste and beautiful language :

"' Another beautiful feature in the Masonic institution, is its supreme regard for the teachings and authority of the Holy Scriptures. The Bible is found in every Masonic assembly. Nor is it there as a slighted and neglected symbol of the Order—upon the pages often rests the hand and falls the eye of the candidate from the moment the first star of Masonry rises upon his vision, to "the breaking of the dominion of the infidel over the Holy Sepulchre, by the tried steel and strong arm of the valorous knight." To the authority of that volume, Masonry appeals for the solemnity of her obligations, and the purity of her principles. It shines in her temples as the first and brightest of her jewels, and the durable texture of all her royal and beautiful vestments

is woven of the golden threads of its sublimest truths and most impressive passages ; and nowhere may its leaves be more appropriately unfolded than in her solemn assemblies, since to the labors of her Craftsmen the world is indebted for the preservation of several of its parts through a long night of desolation, bondage and ruin.'

BALLOT IN EACH DEGREE.

"The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia,

"Resolved, That in every Lodge in this jurisdiction a separate ballot shall be had on every degree, and that upon a refusal to advance an applicant, indicated by a single blackball, no further balloting can be had for said applicant for the space of six months.

"Your committee admit the correctness of the rule, but not the limitation. The candidate for advancement may have been rejected, not for immoral character, but for want of proficiency in the preceding degree. If such should be the case, if he becomes qualified in a week, or a month, he should not be debarred for six months. See Apprentices.

"We copy the following from Brother C. W. Moore's *Monthly Magazine*, Volume 9, No. 10, which should be in the hands of every Mason :

"'Personal dislikes have nothing to do in the admission of candidates ; at least not so far as the action of the Lodge is concerned. Individual members have a legal right to vote as they think proper, and for so doing are not to be questioned, yet if they negative a candidate for no other reason than that they do not like him as a companion, or from personal pique, they do a moral wrong to the individual, and an injury to the Lodge. Our Lodges cannot become the *media* of malice or revenge.'

"Your committee have no hesitation in saying that if it is proved that such motives operated on any Mason, he is guilty of a gross Masonic crime, for which he should be promptly expelled by his Lodge.

BENEFICIARY LODGES.

"The select committee of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, on the remonstrance of Naval Lodge, No. 4, reported that the appropriation of the funds of the Lodge for such a purpose, is a perversion of the true intentions and objects thereof, and that the system should be discontinued and prohibited in every shape and form.

BERLIN GRAND LODGE.

"This Grand Lodge excludes all candidates not professing Christianity. Comment is useless. We would advise our brethren of the Berlin Lodge that there is a book of constitutions called the *Ahiman Rezon*, which should be read in the Grand Lodge. They refuse to acknowledge the assemblage of Masons calling themselves the New York St. John's Grand Lodge.

CELEBRATIONS.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, say that processions are under the control of the Grand Master, that the too frequent occasions of public festivals and processions are productive of mischief. They presented the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Constitutional provisions regulating public Masonic processions be hereafter strictly enforced under this jurisdiction.

COMMITTEES OF THE GRAND LODGE.

"It appears from the report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, that the committee of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin reported a resolution under which the Grand Master appointed representatives from the subordinate Lodges not represented. The committee of the Grand Lodge of New York remarks :

"'This is a new course unheard of by us before. We deem its propriety very questionable.'

"Your committee deem the whole proceeding unquestionably wrong. To the subordinate Lodges alone, or rather to their officers, belongs the right of representation in person or by proxy. A committee of five elective officers was appointed to nominate a finance committee of three, and on their report a ballot was had for a choice. We agree with the New York committee that these proceedings are 'entirely unusual and irregular,' and we will add unmasonic.

CONNECTICUT GRAND LODGE.

"Returns were received from twenty-nine Lodges. The Fraternity appears to be prosperous. This appears to be the sixtieth annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

CONVOCATION.

"We observe that the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, in his address, uses the word *Convocation* of the Grand Lodge. We do not wish to be hypercritical, but Masonic terms should be properly applied. The meetings of the Grand Lodge are called *Communications*, and of the Grand Chapter *Convocations*. We take it for granted that the Grand Master was perfectly aware of the distinction, and that the mistake was made *currente calamo*, but we notice the term for the benefit of the Craft.

CUMULATION OF DEGREES.

"The committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, in sustaining the cumulation of French and Scottish Rites by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, remarks :

"We have previous to this time shown by incontestible evidence that neither the so-called cumulation of rites, nor the initia-

tion of Masons' sons at eighteen, is any deviation from ancient and established usage. The Grand Lodges of France and Scotland have cumulated these same rites. The Grand Lodge of England has cumulated within its bosom the Chapter Rite of the Royal Arch, and there is no objection made to it.'

"It is the misfortune of your committee, although they have carefully read the valuable reports of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, not to have had the advantage of the 'incontestible evidence' stated to have been presented by the Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York; and from the decisions of the Grand Lodges of the United States in opposition to the cumulation of the Scotch and French Rites on ancient Masonry, they seem to have been equally unfortunate. We know not by what species of argument or evidence the committee of the Grand Lodge of New York came to the conclusion by their *demonstration*, that it was not necessary that a man must be twenty-one years of age before he can be made a Mason. On this subject the *Ahiman Rezon*, the *Antiquities of Masonry*, and Mackey's *Lexicon of Freemasonry* differ with the New York Committee. You will find the following from the Constitutions of Masonry, or *Ahiman Rezon* published in Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, Chapter seventh, concerning a Lodge and its government, Section two:

"The qualities of those who are to be admitted as members of a Lodge have been fully mentioned in the foregoing chapter, and it is only necessary to repeat here in general that they are to be "men of good report, free-born, of mature age, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered at the time of their making, and no woman."

"We make the following extract from the regulations made in General Assembly, December 27, 1663, Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans, Grand Master, *Antiquities of Masonry*, Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, No. 10, page 27:

"Sec. 6. That no person shall be accepted, unless he be twenty-one years old or more.'

"This regulation, it will be remembered, was made by the General Assembly or Grand Lodge of Scotland; and if candidates are admitted now in the Scotch Lodges before the age of twenty-one years, it is a violation of their ancient Constitutions of Masonry.

"We make the following extract from Mackey's *Lexicon*, which we consider stands unrivalled in its lucid exposition of Masonic law—title, 'admission,' page 13:

"The requisites for admission into our Order are somewhat peculiar. The candidate must be free-born, under no bondage, of at least *twenty-one years of age*, in the possession of sound senses, free from any physical defect or dismemberment, and of irreproachable manners, or as it is technically termed, "under the tongue of good report." No atheist, eunuch, or woman can be admitted.'

"In France, legal or mature age is twenty-five.* If the Lodges, therefore, of Scotland and France confer degrees on the sons of Master Masons before they attain the age of twenty-one, they not only break this ancient regulation of Masonry, but they also violate another ancient regulation by favoring the sons of Master Masons, viz.: 'No man shall be regarded on account of his worldly wealth or honors.' The violations of the ancient landmarks of the Order by the Grand Lodges of Scotland and France, cannot be cited as establishing Masonic law and usage, because it is not in the power of any assemblage of Masons to make innovations in the Constitutions of Masonry, and the citation of these unlawful acts of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and France simply resolves itself into a *petitio principis*.

"The cumulation of the Chapter Rites, as the New York committee are pleased to term them, by the Grand Lodge of England, is, we consider, an unfortunate illustration of the right of an Ancient York Lodge to cumulate the modern Scotch and French Rites. Royal Arch Masonry is part of the Ancient York Rite. It has never been accumulated by York Lodges but by the consent of Grand Lodges. They have, for the benefit of the Craft, yielded all the Ancient York degrees above the three symbolical degrees to Grand Chapters. The Grand Lodge of England still retains its jurisdiction, as well as the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as we are informed, of the Royal Arch degrees. There is no accumulation of any rites in these Lodges, Ancient or Modern. They always had the same right to them that they had to the first, second, and third degrees of Ancient York Masonry. If the Grand Lodges of England and Pennsylvania had cumulated the modern rites of Odd Fellows and Sons of Temperance, the illustration would have been in point. But how is it, that after the demonstration by the committee of New York, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had the right to cumulate the Scotch and French Rite on the York Rite—that they advise the Grand Lodge of Louisiana to abandon her cumulation of these rites? We can properly appreciate the peculiar position of the Grand Lodge of New York in relation to *jurisdiction*, and are induced to believe, from her sensitiveness on that subject, in her zeal in the defense of the jurisdiction of her sister Grand Lodge of Louisiana, she has for a moment overlooked the ancient landmarks of the Order. With more mature reflection, and in the calm exercise of her known Masonic abilities, we have no doubt on this subject, she will yet diffuse the true light of Masonry.

CONSTITUTIONS OF MASONRY.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, make the following appropriate remarks, which claim the special attention of all Grand Lodges:

* Note by Grand Secretary DORR. In this country, they are not supposed to be mature before they are twenty-one years of age.

“ ‘But the Grand Lodge has no power to *impose* any by-laws upon the subordinates. Her power is simply corrective. Legislation, rules, definitions in relation to the ancient constitutions are useless and worse than useless—they are highly injurious.

CERTIFICATES OF GRAND LODGES.

“ ‘The committee of the Grand Lodge of Maine report as follows :

“ ‘It is obvious that if caution in admitting visiting brethren hailing from New York was necessary prior to the recent painful conflict, there is surely no less need of caution now, since there are two bodies now claiming to be the legitimate Grand Lodge of that State, besides the so-called St. John's Grand Lodge. The seal of the Grand Lodge, which ought to be affixed to the certificates, is in the hands of the body which, by our resolutions, we disown and repudiate as a Grand Lodge.’

“ ‘It is, therefore, imperative on the Grand Lodge of Florida to direct the subordinate Lodges strictly to require of brethren who hail from the State of New York, satisfactory evidence, or Grand Lodge certificate, that they are in fellowship with the subordinates of the legitimate Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge certificate system has been modified by the unanimous consent of the Grand Lodges of the Union. They are not now considered as a *sine qua non* for admission, but regarded as *prima facie* evidence of a good Masonic standing, but as not dispensing with the voucher of a brother, or examination ; but the rule in relation to brethren hailing from New York should be more stringent. A Grand Lodge certificate should be a *sine qua non*, and in addition there should be a voucher or examination.

“ ‘We find the following standing resolution of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, which we recommend for adoption by this Grand Lodge :

“ ‘*Resolved*, That upon the death of any Master Mason in good standing, and who is a member of any Lodge under this jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of such subordinate Lodge to furnish the widow or orphans of such deceased member a certificate, under the seal of the Lodge, of his membership, standing, and death, without any application or charge therefor.

CHARITY BY GRAND LODGES.

“ ‘The following remarks by the committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, in relation to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, respecting Grand Lodge charities, meet our cordial approbation. Our sister of Ohio has certainly acted without her accustomed judgment and Masonic correctness :

“ ‘The Most Worshipful Grand Master recommended a charity fund in the Grand Lodge. It was referred to a select committee who reported “ ‘it is inexpedient to create such a fund by the Grand Lodge.” The corollary to this is, that such charities or charity funds belong solely to subordinate Lodges, and that the Grand Lodge has nothing to do with them. The same committee, to whom was referred the petition of Brother Jonah W. Brown for Masonic charity, beg leave to report

that they have had the same under consideration, and from the evidence before them, believe him to be a proper person to receive Masonic charity. The Grand Lodge, however, being a legislative body only, we cannot recommend it to contribute to his relief. Brother Brown's case being an extreme one (having lost his sight), your committee would feel like recommending the Grand Lodge to relieve him, were it not setting a bad precedent.'

" 'The Grand Lodge not established for charitable purposes ! Then why undertake to foster the schools for instructing the indigent orphan children of Masons ? Why did the Grand Lodge of England establish a Grand Charity Fund in 1724, etc. ? This finally led to what is now called in England and New York, the Grand Stewards of Charity.'

" Your committee consider charity as the corner-stone of Masonry. Would our brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ohio grant to the subordinate and refuse to their paramount head the luxury of doing good ? If they will examine the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the Union, they will find that Grand Charity funds are established by the Grand Lodges of New York, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, and other Grand Lodges. The provincial Grand Lodge of the District of Montreal and William Henry, Canada, has established a Female Orphan Institution for the reception, education, and protection of the orphan daughters of deceased Masons. We will also call the attention of the Grand Lodge of Ohio to 'The Masonic Boys' School,' at London, *Freeman's Monthly Magazine*, published by Brother C. W. Moore, Boston, No. 7, Volume 9, page 232.

" 'The anniversary festival of the Boys' School, established by the Grand Lodge of England, for clothing, educating, and apprenticing sons of indigent and decayed Freemasons,' was held at London on the 13th of March last. This very interesting account by Brother Moore will not only convince our brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ohio that Grand Lodge *Charities are Masonic*, but will melt the most obdurate heart to charity. In conclusion on this subject, we offer to the perusal of our brethren of Ohio, the following beautiful lines from the 9th No., Volume 9, *Moore's Monthly Magazine* :

" 'Charity ! the crowned queen among the virtues—the brightest handmaid of religion and love—may thy steps never wax feeble, or thy heart grow cold. Let us mark the splendor of thy presence by the desolate hearth, and by every mourner's couch. Teach us to throw thy mantle of compassion over the ignorant, the erring, and the guilty. Let thy influence soften every obdurate heart, and reclaim every vicious mind.'

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

" We find that the Grand Lodge of Maine appropriated twenty-five dollars for the payment of the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence. We consider the precedent a violation of the senti-

ments and usages of the Order. We are pleased to see that the Grand Lodge of Alabama has rescinded the resolution appointing their Grand Master a committee on Foreign Correspondence, and transferring the duties to a committee of the Grand Lodge. The impropriety of placing the presiding officer of the Grand Lodge upon any committee, is too apparent to need comment.

“‘The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, reported that the said committee had examined such matters as were submitted to them, and find therein nothing to entertain the attention of the Grand Lodge.’ Our sister of Delaware we will not say is behind the times some ten years. We recollect the time when this Grand Lodge and the other Grand Lodges of the Union made this stereotype report, but it will not do at this date, when the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges are teeming with interesting Masonic subjects, to say that there is nothing to entertain the attention of a Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of New York solicits a renewal of Foreign Correspondence, and appointed W. Brothers Javis M. Hatch, J. D. Evans, and James Mentz, the committee of Correspondence. We regret to see, from the report of the committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, that the Florida report for the present Masonic year has not been received. We are assured by the Grand Secretary that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge have been regularly mailed for all the Grand Lodges of the Union.

CONFIRMATION OF SENTENCE OF A SUBORDINATE LODGE BY GRAND LODGE.

“We observe a resolution of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, requiring expulsions by subordinate Lodges of Masons settling their disputes with each other by duel. This is well, but it required no expression of the opinion of the Grand Lodge on the subject. Every Mason must know that it is an outrage on Masonic law, which requires prompt expulsion by every subordinate Lodge throughout the world : but we are at a loss to conceive what the Grand Lodge of South Carolina means by the conclusion of the resolution : ‘subject as usual to the confirmation of the Grand Lodge.’

“If it is intended to convey the idea that the Grand Lodge, upon appeal, may annul or confirm the judgment of the subordinate Lodge, we readily give our assent, but if it is intended to convey the idea that the judgment or sentence of the subordinate is not perfected or final until confirmed by the Grand Lodge, where no appeal is taken, we totally deny the position. In relation to this subject, your committee respectfully refer the Grand Lodge of South Carolina to the report of the committee on Correspondence of this Grand Lodge in 1847, to which the Grand Lodge of Connecticut and other Grand Lodges have given their commendations.

“‘The power to expel by a Lodge is coeval with the establishment of the Order, and existed long before the establishment of Grand

Lodges. We admit the right also of the Grand Lodge to expel from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, and also its paramount authority. But the power of the subordinate in one particular cannot even be controlled by the Grand Lodge, viz., the restoration of the expelled member to membership in the Lodge expelling him.'

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

"At our last annual communication, we had the pleasure to announce the reception of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the District of Montreal and William Henry. The favor has been reciprocated by this Grand Lodge, but we regret that the proceedings of that Grand Lodge have not been received since. We learn from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry has eight subordinate Lodges.

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA.

"We have before us the proceedings of the convention of Free and Accepted Masons, at the Masonic Hall, in Sacramento City, on the 17th of April, A. L. 5850, organized by the appointment of Past Grand Master of Maryland, Charles Gilman, Chairman. A constitution was adopted, such as might have been expected from the known Masonic abilities of Grand Master Gilman. Jonathan D. Stevenson was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master; John A. Tutt, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master; Caleb Fenner, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden; and Saschel Woods, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden.

DISPENSATIONS.

"We observe by Article second, Section first, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, that dispensations for holding new Lodges may be issued by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge. It is the province of the Grand Master to issue dispensations in the recess of the Grand Lodge, which remain valid until the succeeding communication of the Grand Lodge, at which time the dispensation may, for good cause, be continued until the next annual communication, or a charter may be issued by the Grand Lodge, but the issuing of a dispensation, in the first instance by a Grand Lodge, is unprecedented, as far as the Masonic information of your committee extends.

"We find from the communication of J. M. Hall, District Deputy Grand Master, to the Grand Lodge of Texas, that R. O. Watkins, who had been initiated in Nachadoches Lodge, applied to Douglas Lodge to be passed and raised; that during the pendency of the petition, Nachadoches Lodge informed Douglas Lodge, through its Secretary, that Nachadoches Lodge would not give its consent for the passing and raising of R. O. Watkins, and that he could not pass in that Lodge; that Samuel McClarty, the then District Deputy Grand Master, knowing all

the facts, did grant to Douglas Lodge a dispensation, by virtue of which that Lodge passed and raised R. O. Watkins.

"This we consider an infraction of the rights of the Nachadoches Lodge, according to the established laws of Masonry, which the Grand Master himself has no authority to violate, by dispensation or otherwise. But the power to issue a dispensation by a District Deputy Grand Master, who is generally an officer by appointment of the Grand Master, and not by election, is wholly unprecedented in the proceedings of ancient Masonry. He is certainly an inferior officer to the Grand Senior Warden, for whom no power to grant dispensations has ever been claimed.

"All proper by-laws of a Lodge under dispensation are valid as to its own members, as soon as they are adopted, and before the approval of the Grand Lodge.' See C. W. Moore's *Monthly Magazine*, vol. 9, No. 8, page 228.

DUES TO LODGES.

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire recommend that subordinate Lodges be exonerated from the payment of dues to the Grand Lodge for those members who are exempt from the payment of dues to their own Lodges, especially honorary members.

"The committee of correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York say: 'We think there is a manifest propriety in this, with which your committee concur.'

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland does not suspend or expel, or permit its subordinates to do so, for non-payment of dues. The Grand Steward's Lodge of that State has repeatedly decided that suspension or expulsion for non-payment of dues is illegal, and the Grand Lodge has uniformly sustained these decisions. But for non-payment of dues they authorize its subordinates to dismiss from membership.

"The Correspondence Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York recommends the same rule for the adoption of their Grand Lodge. Your committee are pleased to see this course taken by these intelligent Grand Lodges. The Grand Lodge of Florida, some years since at the instance of this committee, adopted the rule.

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland authorizes, by its standing resolutions, its subordinates in their discretion, to dismiss from membership any member not under Masonic censure, who may have failed for two years to pay his dues, provided that no member shall be dismissed for non-payment of dues, until he shall have had one month's notice of the intention to consider his default. The Grand Lodges of the District of Columbia, Texas, and California concur.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

"We see from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Georgia that, by their constitution, there are four Deputy Grand Masters. The Grand

Lodge of Florida, by an amendment of the constitution, provided for the election of an assistant Deputy Grand Master, but upon more mature reflection, they were satisfied it was a departure from the organization of ancient Grand Lodges, which recognized only a Grand and Deputy Grand Master. We consider that the Grand Lodge of Georgia has fallen into the same error committed formerly by this Grand Lodge, and believe that we have set an example to our sister Grand Lodge of Georgia worthy of following, because in pursuing that course there is a certainty of not violating the rules in the organization of an ancient York Grand Lodge.

GRAND LODGE OF DELAWARE.

"We have received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, held at Wilmington on the 27th June, A. L. 5850. We are pleased to receive these proceedings. The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa remark :

"That your committee learn from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia that there is a Grand Lodge in Delaware, but whether it is an old one revived, or a new one organized, they are not advised ; nor are they particular, but rejoice to know that there is one, and hereby offer to her a welcome, and invite a more extended acquaintance. With her there is a Grand Lodge in every State in this Union, and one in the District of Columbia."

"There appears to be seventeen subordinate Lodges. There were returns from eight subordinate Lodges. Judging from the number of members returned, Masonry appears flourishing.

DIMITTING.

"The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin permits any Master Mason in good standing and not in arrears for dues to dimit. The committee on Correspondence state : 'In relation to dimission, our regulation is, "that no brother shall dimit from one Lodge, unless for the purpose of uniting with another Lodge."' In conclusion, the committee say :

"Your committee, therefore, have changed their opinions upon this subject, and concur with those Grand Lodges who dissent from our former action."

"They recommend that members be permitted to dimit at pleasure, but that they be denied the privilege of visiting Lodges ; that Grand charities be withheld from them ; that they be excluded from Masonic processions and festivals, and other benefits enjoyed by regular affiliated Masons. The Grand Lodge of Florida, at its last communication, passed resolutions on this subject, corresponding with the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

"We copy the following article from that valuable work, Mackey's *Lexicon of Masonry*, with which the Grand Lodge of Florida fully concur :

"Dimit.—A Mason is said to dimitt from the Order, when he withdraws from all connection with it. It relieves the individual from pecuniary contributions, and debars him from pecuniary relief, but it does not cancel his Masonic obligations, nor exempt him from that wholesome control which the Order exercises over the moral conduct of its members. In this respect, the maxim is, *once a Mason, and always a Mason.*'

GRAND LODGE DIPLOMAS.

"We recommend the following resolution, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, to be adopted by this Grand Lodge :

"Resolved, That the subject of procuring an engraved plate, for the purpose of striking Grand Lodge Diplomas, be referred to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, and if, in their opinion, it is expedient, they are authorized to procure such engraving, and a sufficient number of blank diplomas for the use of the subordinate Lodges.

"The following standing order of the Grand Lodge of Maryland we also recommend for adoption by this Grand Lodge :

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary furnish every brother elected or appointed to fill any office or station in the Grand Lodge, with a certificate of his election or appointment, under the seal of the Grand Lodge."

JOHN S. DARCY,—P. G. M. GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY.

"The following resolution we think was adopted with great propriety by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey :

"Resolved, That Past Grand Masters Jephtha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, for the part they took in 1837 in installing the Grand Officers of the self-styled St. John's Grand Lodge, in the city of New York, deserve the censure of this Grand Lodge.

DELEGATES TO GRAND LODGES.

"Your committee observe from journals of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia of July, 1849, the following quotation by the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland with their able commentary on the subject, which they submit to the consideration of this Lodge :

"During the pendency of this resolution a question arose as to the right of the officers of subordinate Lodges to vote when the delegates have been appointed by the Lodge of which they were officers, and the M. W. Grand Master decided that under the existing provisions of the Grand Lodge constitution they had no right to vote when their Lodges had appointed delegates."

"On appeal from this decision the Most Worshipful Grand Master was sustained. Here it is clear to your committee that the Grand Master was wrong in his decision, whatever the constitution may have enjoined, because it was evidently a violation of the rights of the Master and Wardens of the Lodge, according to the constitution of Masonry, and the Grand Lodge was twice wrong, first in permitting an appeal from the decision of the Grand Master, and secondly in sustaining the

principles of that decision. We consider the whole proceedings on the part of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge as a nullity, as no body of Masons can, by their constitution, or by any act alter the ancient landmarks of the Order. We, however, give the lucid comments of the Correspondence Committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland on this subject, as we consider the illustration much more appropriate than any we can offer :

“Your committee do not know what is the provision of the constitution here alluded to, and do not intend to question the correctness of the decision of the M. W. Grand Master based thereon, but object to to the provision and its origin. If your committee recollect aright the Ancient Constitution, this is another innovation, and its origin is attributable to “*courtesy*.” Your committee believe that according to the ancient constitutions, the proper and legal representatives of a subordinate in a Grand Lodge are the Master and Wardens, and if they are not able to attend, the right rests with each one to appoint his own proxy, and the power of that proxy can be revoked by the one appointing him. The practice has grown up to permit the appointment by the Lodge of some other person, in case the Master or Wardens say they cannot attend, to gratify some member of the Lodge whose inclinations and business lead him to be at the meeting of the Grand Lodge. This custom is assuming the sanctity of a right inherent in the Lodge and not in the Master and Wardens. If your committee are right in their recollection of the ancient constitution, then the constitutional provision and the decisions based thereon, together with the usage practiced, are wrong, and should be got rid of as soon as possible. The best preventative against further innovations is to exercise the usages already in existence.”

“The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York remarks on this subject that,

“The Grand Lodge of New York decided at the June meeting, 1849, that when any of the first three officers of a subordinate Lodge is present in the Grand Lodge, a representative appointed by the Lodge has no power to sit, act, or vote in the Grand Lodge, and it was also held that there is no appeal from the decision of the Master in the Chair, and on this last point several other Grand Lodges have decided in the same way.”

“The Grand Lodge of Iowa, with her usual correct views of Masonic law, sustains the decision of the Grand Lodge of Maryland on the subject of delegates to Grand Lodges. The innovation of permitting Lodges to elect representatives to the Grand Lodge has been attended with contradictory rules and decisions of the Grand Lodges in the United States. Some Grand Lodges permit delegates to be appointed by the subordinate Lodges only when the first three officers fail to appoint proxies. Other Grand Lodges have appointed proxies for subordinate Lodges. The Grand Lodge of Indiana decided that the W. M. of a Lodge could not appoint a proxy to the Grand Lodge without the

concurrence of the Lodge over which he presided. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida recognizes the Master and Wardens as the representatives of the Lodge, with power to appoint proxies, but also authorizes each subordinate Lodge to elect one representative to the Grand Lodge, who votes with the officers of his Lodge. Dermott's Regulations, Art. 12 :

“ ‘A Grand Lodge consists of Masters and Wardens of subordinate Lodges, together with one or more Grand Officers at their head, Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, and Past Grand Wardens, members of the Grand Lodge, and allows Masters and Wardens to send a brother of equal degree as their proxy, and requires all to appear in their jewels, but does not speak of representatives or delegates elected by the subordinate Lodges or Past Masters as members of the Grand Lodge, or mention them in any manner.’

“The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York, adopted in 1785, compiled by James Giles, Grand Secretary, dedicated to Gen. George Washington by the compiler, by order of the Grand Lodge, Chapter 3, Section 1, contains the following, as cited by the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York in their late able and elaborate report :

“ ‘The Grand Lodge consists of and is formed by the Masters and Wardens of all the regular particular Lodges upon record, with the Grand Master at their head, the Deputy Grand Master on his left, &c., &c., all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens, &c. In Section 10 the privilege of serving as *proxy* is restricted to a Master Mason, who has passed the Chair in some regular Lodge. Not one word appears about delegates or representatives elected by subordinate Lodges.’

“We copy the following from the Ahiman Rezon, Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, Section 5, page 103, which we consider conclusive on this subject :

“ ‘When in Grand or Stewards' Lodge, and at general as well as special communications, the Master and Wardens, or either of them, have *full power and authority* to represent their Lodges, and to transact all matters relative thereto, as well and as truly as if the whole body were there present.’

EDUCATION.

“This subject occupies a prominent position in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the Union. The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Vermont remark :

“ ‘The grand projects of some of our sister Grand Lodges, viz., Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Mississippi and Tennessee, are highly honorable to the States themselves.’

“The Lodge and Chapter at Selma, Alabama, have established a Seminary, which is sustained by the Grand Lodge, and which it is pro-

posed to elevate to the rank of a college. Several Grand Lodges have recommended their subordinate Lodges to educate those who may need assistance, by sending them to schools already established within their own jurisdiction. This course has been adopted by the Grand Lodge of Florida. With our limited resources, we have no hesitation in saying that by this course the greatest good is done.

"The Grand Lodge of Ohio has declined the establishment of a Masonic College, believing that more good could be done with the same amount, by the subordinate Lodges, and they are required to see that no orphan or child of an indigent Mason be prevented from attending school for want of necessary clothing, or from the necessities of the widowed mother.

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa say :

"The glory and boast of the Institution are springing up under almost every jurisdiction, at which we heartily rejoice, and fondly look forward to the day when the funds we are husbanding for that purpose shall have increased sufficiently to enable us to act decisively and energetically in this important matter—the education of the Masonic orphan."

"In the address of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, he remarks :

"I also recommend to your consideration the propriety of establishing one preparatory school in each Masonic District, but wherever schools are already established, I would deem it unwise to establish another, but prefer to send the children under our care to those already in existence."

"The brethren at Talladega and Uniontown, Alabama, are about establishing a large Masonic Seminary. Each Lodge within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Alabama is required to give special attention to the education of the orphans of deceased or indigent worthy Master Masons within the bounds of their respective Lodges. A school has also been established at Dayton, Alabama.

"The Grand Lodge of Georgia adopted the following resolution, which we recommend for adoption by the Grand Lodge of Florida :

"*Resolved*, That the subordinate Lodges be strongly advised to husband all their resources, and that they look out all the children and orphans of indigent Masons in their respective communities, and as far as possible, place them at school."

"From the report of the committee on Education to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, it appears that the Trustees of the Masonic University of Kentucky have taken the School of Medicine, located at Louisville, under their auspices, as the Medical Department of the University. Seventy-two pupils have attended the school during the past year, twenty of whom are beneficiaries, whose entire expenses, except clothes and books, are paid by the Trustees. The whole number of

beneficiaries, from the first organization of the school to the present time, is forty-one.

"The Grand Lodge of Arkansas passed the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Master and Wardens of the several subordinate Lodges be and they are constituted a committee on Education within their jurisdiction, and that they be required to report annually to this Grand Lodge the number and age of all children, the orphans of Masons, in such jurisdiction.'

"Not having received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, we make the following quotation from the report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi :

"During the past year, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, having accepted property proffered them by the citizens of Clarksville, and fifteen thousand dollars having been subscribed for the erection of suitable buildings, on the 22d of February last laid the corner-stone, with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, of a University, at Clarksville, in that State.'

"Each subordinate Lodge is entitled to the gratuitous instruction of one Mason's child. That as the brethren of Clarksville have undertaken to provide gratuitous board and lodging for a number of such beneficiaries as may be deputed by the subordinate Lodges, the Grand Master is to designate such as he may deem most entitled to the benefits of this provision. It is proposed that the beneficiaries shall be required, after graduating, to return to their homes and organize a school, and teach for two or three years under the direction of the Lodge sending the scholars. This is what is called a Normal School. Since the first of January, 1849, one hundred and five students have been admitted into the University.

"We are happy to learn that the Masonic School established at Madison, in this State, is in a flourishing condition. We confidently believe that education will be advanced by the continued exertions of the Fraternity of Florida. We shall, however, decline going into any details on this subject, as we take it for granted that the committee on Education, which are specially charged with the duties appertaining to this subject, will present to the Grand Lodge a lucid and interesting report.

THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

"We compile from the London *Freemason's Quarterly Review* for June, 1850. At the annual Grand Festival, April 24, 1850, the Right Honorable the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master in the Chair : the Representatives of the Grand Lodges of Ireland, Switzerland, and Hamburg : the Grand Master, Right Honorable Thomas Dundas, Earl of Zetland, nominated the Right Honorable the Earl of Yarborough, Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year ; F. B. Alston, Senior, and F. Pattison, Grand Junior Wardens. At the quarterly communication, June 5, 1850, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity

Fund was united with the funds for the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Freemasons. The Board of General Purposes report £12,000 belonging to the Fund of Benevolence. On the 8th of May, a festival was held of the Royal Freemasons' Girls' School. A subscription was taken up, amounting to £1,026. It appears that a Visiting Committee of the House of Commons reported this school the best managed school they had visited. A Widow's Fund has been recently established. A School for Boys is also maintained. On the 30th June, the interesting ceremony took place of the presentation of a present of magnificent silver plate to Brother William H. White, who had been Grand Secretary for forty years. The Grand Lodge was sumptuously entertained by the Lord Mayor of London.

CASES OF EMERGENCY.

"The Grand Lodge of Alabama, by a standing resolution, has decided that subordinate Lodges, in declaring cases emergent when applications are made for initiation, passing, and raising, should be extremely guarded, and that, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge, nothing but a contemplated journey of some considerable distance and absence for some length of time, or the presence of any of the Grand Officers wishing to exemplify the work, or cases similar to these, should constitute a case of emergency.

ELECTIONS.

"By Article six, Section one, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, 'two-thirds of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice for a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens; a majority for the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.'

"This article is in violation of the usages of all Grand Lodges known to your committee—the majority of all the votes given being only necessary for the election of all officers. The rule of elections, in conformity with ancient practice, is to elect on or near a given day the officers of the Grand Lodge for one year, and that no election of a Master or Warden of a subordinate Lodge can be held at any other time than the period of the annual election; but Dalcho, in the *Ahiman Rezon*, page 155, lays it down that, if the Master and both Wardens should die, be expelled, or leave the State not to return, a new election can be held under dispensation from the presiding Grand Officer. See *Mackey's Miscellany*, vol. 1, July, 1850, No. 8, page 231.

EXPUNGING.

"In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey is the following:

"That portion of the minutes relating to the Grand Secretary, why his books and papers were not present, was, on motion, ordered to be expunged.'

"Your committee consider it improper to expunge anything recorded by the Secretary, if the action of the Lodge is stated correctly, unless something is recorded which masonically should not be written. If the previous action of the Lodge be disproved, that disproof should be shown on the records, and will as effectually expunge the previous proceedings from the record as if they had been obliterated, and the records disfigured with black lines.

"The Grand Lodge of Virginia decided in the case of Alexandria Washington Lodge, No. 22, that although matter which it was not requisite should have been entered of record in the Lodge proceedings is entered, yet after the completion on the record, it is irregular and erroneous to make any erasure. In which the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York fully agree.

EXPULSION.

"By Article 4, Section 1, Rule 6, of the Grand Lodge of Maine, a sentence of suspension or expulsion shall not take effect until confirmed by the Grand Lodge, but shall operate as suspension of the delinquent in the meantime. The Grand Lodges of South Carolina and Wisconsin declare sentence of expulsion not to be final until ratified by the Grand Lodge. The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island submitted the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the act of expulsion by a subordinate Lodge deprives the individual so expelled of membership in said Lodge, and of the rights and privileges of Masonry until it is acted on by the Grand Lodge."

"If the Committee intend to convey the idea that the sentence of expulsion by a subordinate Lodge is final and conclusive, unless reversed upon an appeal to the Grand Lodge, your Committee fully concur in the resolution. Your Committee acknowledge the abilities of the Grand Lodges of Maine, South Carolina, and Wisconsin, but we are at a loss to understand from what authority, or by what process of reasoning they have formed their opinion. Subordinate Lodges existed long before the establishment of a Grand Lodge, and had and exercised the power to suspend or expel from all the rights and benefits of Masonry. Let these Grand Lodges show that in the establishment of the Grand Lodge by the only four Lodges at that time existing in London, at the Apple Tree Tavern, in the reign of George I., that these subordinate Lodges relinquished all right to the Grand Lodge to expel members from the rights and benefits of Masonry. So far from relinquishing their rights and privileges in the establishment of the Grand Lodge, it is expressly stated 'that the former privileges, however, were still allowed to remain in the four old Lodges then extant. In consequence of this, the old Masons in the Metropolis vested all their inherent privileges as individuals in the four old Lodges, in trust that they never would suffer the Ancient Charges and Landmarks to be in-

fringed.' See Antiquities of Masonry, Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, page 50.

"We admit that the Grand Lodge has a concurrent right to exclude from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, not because it is a Lodge, and the inherent rights of a Lodge appertain to it in common with all other Lodges. We also admit its paramount authority, and that it can reverse, upon appeal, the judgment of subordinate Lodges ; but there are many restrictions upon the powers of the Grand Lodge, as is apparent from the following quotation from the *Antiquities of Masonry*, page 51 :

"'Every annual Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make new regulations, or to alter these for the real benefit of this ancient Fraternity, provided always that the old landmarks be carefully preserved.'

"The inability of a Grand Lodge to force a member upon a subordinate Lodge, is one example of the inherent and reserved rights of a subordinate Lodge. We find in the Methodical Digest of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, pages 254-55, the following :

"'Chapter 5, Section 1. Every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall have *full power and authority* to inquire into and *punish* unmasonic conduct in any of its members, except Masters of Lodges and regular Past Masters, provided they do not interfere in disputes between brethren of a pecuniary nature, except by request or consent of all parties interested.'

"'Section 3. Every Lodge possesses an *inherent power of suspending or expelling members*, for a non-compliance with its rules and by-laws,' &c.

"By Section 9, page 56, it is provided :

"'In all cases of expulsion, the person expelled is thereby *absolutely* precluded from all and every the benefits and privileges of Masonry, throughout the *Masonic world forever* ; provided always, the *Lodge imposing suspension or expulsion* shall have the *power of reinstatement*.'

"Here the power to expel in the subordinate Lodge is recognized as absolute, and not depending upon the confirmation of the Grand Lodge. Like a final judgment of a Court of Law, it may be affirmed upon an appeal to a higher tribunal, or reversed ; but if there be no appeal, the judgment stands as long as time.

"The Grand Lodges of the Union have generally decided that the expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter shall not be considered an expulsion from a Blue Lodge. It is contended by several Grand Lodges that the expulsion from a Blue Lodge is an expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter. Upon this subject your committee do not intend to travel out of the record, as its settlement appertains not to a Grand Lodge but to a Grand Chapter. We find the following standing resolution of the Grand Lodge of Alabama :

“Resolved, That a subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge cannot reinstate a Mason to membership who has been suspended or expelled by another jurisdiction, without first obtaining the consent of that jurisdiction.

“We may not exactly understand this resolution, but we will simply say that a Mason cannot be restored to membership in the Lodge from which he has been excluded, except by the unanimous vote of *that Lodge*. The following provision of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine accords with the report of your committee at a former communication of the Grand Lodge :

“Section 10. No subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction shall publish the suspension or expulsion of any of its members, unless by authority of the Grand Lodge,’ etc.

“The Secretaries of the subordinate Lodges should return the names and the character of the offense of all such as may be suspended or expelled, to the Grand Secretary, whose duty should be to transmit such notice to the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

FELLOW CRAFT—PASSING AND RAISING.

“The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, report that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not members of the Lodge. See Apprentices and ballot in each degree.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

“The Government openly protects Masonry in France, and the institution is prosperous. Intercourse is solicited with the Grand Lodges of America and of the old world. The Grand Orient of France has issued a charter to open a Lodge in Richmond, in violation of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Against the action of the Grand Orient, the Grand Lodges of New York and Virginia have protested. Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

“Resolved, That this Grand Lodge protest against the violation of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and strictly charge all subordinate Lodges and Masons within this jurisdiction to have no intercourse with the French Lodge established at Richmond Virginia, or to admit any members of the same within their Lodges.

FUNERAL PROCESSIONS.

“We copy the following from the general regulations of the Grand Lodge of Iowa :

“‘Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, are not allowed to hold public celebrations or appear in public processions as Masons, except on funeral occasions, without first obtaining a dispensation from the Grand Lodge, or from the Grand Master during the recess.’

“The Grand Lodge of Indiana, by a standing resolution, declares ‘that in the opinion of that Grand Lodge, it is highly unmasonic for any subordinate Lodge within its jurisdiction to admit Entered Ap-

prentices or Fellow Crafts to join in a funeral procession.' The Grand Lodge of Texas concurs. See processions.

FEES TO GRAND MASTERS MAKING MASONS AT SIGHT.

"The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York say that it is not against Masonic rules, is *clear*. On the contrary, your committee consider it a *clear* violation of the first object and intention of Ancient Craft Masonry, viz., Masonic relief and charity, to which the fees for degrees should be sacredly devoted, and not to be diverted by the Grand Master to his own private use. Comment is unnecessary. Our great astonishment is that so intelligent a committee as that of the Grand Lodge of New York could have fallen into so palpable an error. Can they show the slightest indications of the propriety of such an act from the constitutions of Masonry? But let it pass: Jupiter sometimes nods.

FLORIDA—CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE OF GRAND LODGE OF.

"Your committee, whilst they regret the failure of the publication of the report of the committee on Correspondence at the communication of 1849, properly appreciate the regrets of our sister Grand Lodges. The complimentary reports of the committees on Correspondence of the Grand Lodges of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, and New Hampshire, your committee are conscious greatly exceed their merits. In their labors they have often been not only assisted, but directed by other members of the Grand Lodge more eminently qualified to discharge the duties of the committee than themselves. The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, specially commends the report by M. W. John B. Taylor, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence at our last communication.

GRAND LODGES.

"Has the Grand Lodge the right or power to confer degrees? The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in their able and lucid report, contend for the right. The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, deny the right.

"We copy the following remarks from the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin:

"The power to make Masons and constitute Lodges is primarily in the Grand Lodge. Among the powers granted and enumerated in the warrant, is the power to make Masons. Can a Grand Lodge delegate to subordinates powers which it does not possess?"

"We think the committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa have signally failed in the defense of their position. It seems to your committee that many vexed questions entertained by Grand Lodges would cease, if they would take the trouble to read the consti-

tutions and regulations of Masonry and history of Grand Lodges, where they will find many questions which agitate Grand Lodges, long since settled. We make the following extracts from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England—'Assembly and Feast at Stationer's Hall, June 24th, 1721, in the seventh year of George First:

" 'Payne, Grand Master, with his Grand Wardens, the former Grand Officers, and the Masters and Wardens of twelve Lodges, met the Grand Officers-elect, in a Grand Lodge at the Queen Ann's Tavern in St. Paul's Church Yard in the morning, and having forthwith recognized their choice of Brother Montague, *they made some new brothers*, and particularly the noble Philip Lord Stanhope, now Earl of Chesterfield.'

" 'On the fifth of November, 1737, an occasional Grand Lodge was held at the palace of the Prince of Wales, Past Grand Master, the Rev. Dr. Desaugliers presiding, William Crafton, Senior, and Erasmus King, Junior Grand Wardens, when His Royal Highness Frederick, late Prince of Wales, was in the usual manner introduced, and made an Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft.'

" In the history of Grand Lodges, *Dove's Masonic Text-Book*, page sixty, speaking of the privileges granted or reserved to the four old Lodges, constituting, with others, the Grand Lodge of England, we find the following note:

" 'Among these privileges, were those of assembling without a warrant of constitution, and raising Masons to the Master's degree, *a power for a long time exercised only by the Grand Lodge.*'

" See the same *Mackey's Lexicon of Freemasonry*, page 114.

" We copy the following from the Constitutions of Masonry, or Ahiman Rezon, *Dove's Text-Book*, page 116.

" Section 8. That each person admitted to any degree of Masonry in the *Grand Lodge*, shall pay a fee of — for the Grand Charity.

" This we consider conclusive.

GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

" Your committee find that the opposition to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodges of the Union, has greatly increased since our last annual communication, and we think with great propriety. Grand Lodges at this day are constituted by subordinate Lodges, with delegated legislative powers. It is a principle in the construction of delegated legislative powers, that they must be exercised by the body to whom they are immediately delegated, and cannot be transferred by them to any other body. If the right were admitted, the inutility of its establishment is apparent from the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the Union since our last annual communication.

" At that time, difficulties between the Grand Lodges of New York and Louisiana and bodies of Masons organized as Grand Lodges

within their jurisdiction, were relied upon as evidences of the necessity of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, but the remarkable concurrence of opinion of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, has more effectually settled these difficulties than could have been done by the decisions of any General Grand Lodge. The Masons called the St. John's Grand Lodge, have given up their organization, and united with the Grand Lodge of New York. The Grand Lodges of Louisiana have united, and there remains nothing now to interrupt the Masonic harmony of the Union ; for we do not regard the organization of the rioters of the city of New York, under the appellation of the Grand Lodge of New York, as of any moment. They have unanimously been declared by the Lodges of the United States, and several Grand Lodges of Europe, out of the pale of Masonry ; and we consider their notions and proceedings about as important to Masonry, as the opinions and proceedings of the Mormons or Shaking Quakers.

" In conclusion, we say that in all annals of Masonry, there is no evidence of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge ; that any such organization will be a palpable violation upon the ancient usages and constitutions of the Order, and that the establishment of the General Grand Chapter, which has been pointed to as an example worthy of imitation, is in violation of the constitutions of Royal Arch Masonry, and is evidently a total failure. A resolution was presented in the Grand Lodge of New York to submit all difficulties to the Grand Lodges of the several States, a decision of a majority of the Grand Lodges, or two-thirds to be obligatory. Your committee believe that such a provision, if adopted by the Grand Lodges, would more effectually settle all vexed questions, than could be effected by the establishment of a General Grand Lodge.

" Your committee, therefore, offer the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That each of the Grand Lodges be requested to adopt a resolution, pledging themselves to abide the concurrent decisions of a majority of the several Grand Lodges of this Union, relating to all matters submitted for their action.

POWERS OF GRAND MASTER—WHO TO PRESIDE IN HIS ABSENCE.

" The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, presented the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Master has the right, in cases of emergency, to summon a sufficient number of brethren, open a Lodge, and confer the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, is a fact so well established that it is surprising that any one at this day should question it.

" Milwaukee Lodge, No. 3, passed the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That Milwaukee, Lodge, No. 3, recognizes the right and authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to confer the first three degrees of Masonry upon a candidate in a regularly constituted subordinate Lodge, by his act of dispensation ; the brethren being duly notified thereof, and by their *unanimous consent* ; but they *protest* :

against the right of the Grand Master to exercise the power claimed for him in the above report, as subversive of Masonic rules, and dangerous to the rights and very existence of subordinate Lodges."

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, in their distinguished and elaborate report, remark :

" 'Since the time when the memory of Masonry runneth not to the contrary, Grand Masters have enjoyed the high prerogative of making Masons at sight, without any preliminaries, and at any suitable time and place, &c. ; and they may call upon the Grand Lodge, or any subordinate Lodge, or *any number of Master Masons*, to assist, and when called upon, they are *bound to obey*. They could not stop him, even if they refused to assist, for he is not necessarily obliged to work the degrees, if the exigency is such that it cannot conveniently be done.'

"We concur in the views of Milwaukee Lodge as far as here expressed, but we have no doubt that the Grand Master can make Masons at sight in a Grand Lodge. We cannot concur with the views of the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, and believe we shall be able to prove their error by the authorities cited by themselves in defense of their position. We are induced to believe that the intelligent Committee of Correspondence have been led into error by an examination of the powers of Grand Masters and Grand Lodges, as constituted previous to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of England at the Appletree Tavern, in London, 1717. Previous to this period, the Grand Lodges, or more properly the General Assemblies, as they were then called, consisted of Masters, Fellow Crafts, and Apprentices, in their individual capacities, and subordinate Lodges were constituted in the same manner, without any charter, and as they conferred degrees without charters, and at their convenience as to time and place, it is admitted the Grand Master had then equal authority, but it was always necessary that the degree should be conferred either in the Grand Lodge or in a subordinate Lodge.

"To prove the first position, we will quote the cited cases presented by the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York :

" 'In 1737, the Earl of Darnley being Grand Master, an *occasional Lodge* was convened at Kew, for the reception into the Order of the then Prince of Wales, father of George the Third.'

"See *Smith's Use and Abuse of Freemasonry*, page 71, ed. of 1788.

" 'It is said that King Edward the Sixth, Henry the Sixth, and Henry the Eighth, were all initiated, passed, and raised by the Grand Masters at the time in a Hall of the Palace in London, an *occasional Lodge* being convened for that purpose.'

" 'At the Grand Feast at Freemason's Hall in London, on the 13th May, 1795, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, then Grand Master, being in the Chair, was accompanied by his royal brother, the Duke of Clarence, and his nephew, Prince William, son of the Duke of

Gloucester, who had been initiated, passed, and raised at an *occasional Lodge*, convened for that purpose on the preceding evening.'

"Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry*, page 309, edition 1798.

"On Thursday the 6th of February, 1787, the same Prince of Wales above mentioned was made a Mason at an *occasional Lodge*, convened for the purpose at the Star and Garter Inn, Pall Mall, London, over which the Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master, presided in person. On Friday the 21st November, 1787, his Royal Highness the Duke of York, nephew to the Grand Master, was initiated into Masonry at a *special Lodge* convened for that purpose at the same place as above, over which the Grand Master presided in person.' Preston, pages 293-94.

"It is stated in Preston, page 226, that at the initiation of Frederick, Prince of Wales, at Kew, in 1737, Dr. Desaguliers presided as Master, that he was passed on the same day at the same Lodge, and was at another Lodge convened at the same place soon after, raised to the degree of a Master Mason. Dr. Desaguliers was then Deputy Grand Master of England. Numerous other instances might be cited.'

"These were evidently cases where Masons were made at sight by the Grand Master, but always with the assistance of the Grand Lodge or the subordinate Lodge (as in the last instance), specially convened for the purpose. There is not a solitary instance found, as far as the researches of your committee extend, of a Grand Master having conferred a degree by himself, or associated with other Masons in their individual capacities, but in all cases he was assisted by the Grand Lodge or a subordinate Lodge, specially called by his order for the occasion.

"The second position is sustained by the following extract from the regulations made in General Assembly, December 27, 1663, Henry Jerman, Earl of St. Albans, Grand Master :

"1. That no person, of what degree soever, be made or accepted a Freemason, unless in a *regular Lodge*, whereof one is to be a Master or a Warden in that limit or division where such Lodge is kept, and another to be a Craftsman in the trade of Freemasonry.' Antiquities of Masonry, Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, page 26, No. 10.

"The Grand Master has no prerogatives in violation of the ancient rules, regulations, and constitutions of the Order, which have been established for the benefit of Masonry, the violation of which by the Grand Master would result in injury and confusion to the Craft. His office is to preserve, not, under the claim of prerogative, to break down the ancient landmarks of the Order.

"In subordinate Lodges the Senior Warden succeeds the Master in his absence. 'This principle does not obtain, in an event of a vacancy in the office of Grand Master. The Deputy succeeds to the Chair. But if there be no Deputy, then the Grand Senior Warden calls the

Grand Lodge together, and a Past Grand Master presides.' *Vide Ahiman Rezon* of 1764.

"We copy the following extract from the report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, commenting upon the installation of the Grand Master of Mississippi :

"Your committee notice that the Grand Master-elect was installed by the Past Deputy Grand Master. Your committee have always been taught that only a Grand Master or a Past Grand Master could install a Grand Master, and we would refer our Mississippi brethren to page 215 of the Text-Book, published by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, for authority.'

GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA.

"By the report of the Grand Secretary at the opening of the communication, 30th October, 1849, there were eighty chartered Lodges, and thirty-one working under dispensations granted during recess in the previous year. To these charters have been issued, and also five other Lodges who applied by petition to that communication, making the number of new Lodges thirty-six, a circumstance unprecedented in the history of the Grand Lodge. The entire number of Lodges one hundred and sixteen. Every Lodge has made its returns, and only one is in arrears for any portion of its dues, and which the Grand Secretary expected soon to be paid. Only one Lodge failed to be represented. This statement is highly honorable to the Fraternity of Georgia, and the example worthy of imitation by the subordinate Lodges of the Union.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa recommend that no dues should be paid by subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge for honorary members. The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island strongly objects to granting honorary membership, as unknown to the usage of the Order. The Grand Lodge of Ohio condemns it as an innovation, and contrary to Masonic usage. The Grand Lodges of New York and Massachusetts are in favor of granting honorary membership.

"Your committee can find no precedent for it in the ancient usages or Constitutions of Masonry. It has evidently of modern origin, derived from the numerous organized societies, and should be abandoned.

HIRAM LODGE NO. 1, OF CONNECTICUT.

"The centennial anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated at New Haven on the 5th of September, 1850.

GRAND LODGE OF HAMBURGH.

"This Grand Lodge has unanimously voted to recognize and support the true Grand Lodge of New York.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

"The Grand Lodge of Ohio has appointed a committee to collect facts and incidents connected with the introduction, progress and history of Freemasonry in the State of Ohio, and requesting the members of the Order throughout the State to render the committee all the assistance in their power. Your committee recommend the same course to this Grand Lodge, as there are now living Masons who were members of the first Lodge instituted in Florida after its cession to the United States. The first Master of that Lodge, and the second Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida, M. W. Past Grand Master Robert Butler, resides in this vicinity, and is conversant with the history of Masonry in Florida. Our present M. W. Grand Master, Gen. R. K. Call, was a member of the first Lodge, and also a member of the convention that established the Grand Lodge of Florida.

INITIATION.

"A unanimous vote is required in initiations, passing, and raising, and for membership. We find the following provision in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, which is according to the constitution of the Order :

"'Sec. 9, Article 3. No Lodge, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, shall initiate, pass or raise a candidate, unless a Past Master is present to preside, and no ballot shall be taken for initiation or membership unless there are at least seven members of the Lodge present.'

"If, however, a Past Master presides he must be a Past Master of the Lodge over which he presides. The committee of Jurisprudence of the Grand Lodge of Ohio reported on a memorial of inquiry from Belmont Lodge, that when one Lodge requests of another leave to initiate a person residing within the bounds of the Lodge of which leave is requested, 'a majority vote is all that is necessary on the part of the Lodge of whom leave is requested ; but there is nothing said in rule 15 of the Grand Lodge which forbids any Lodge making it a rule in their by-laws to require that *vote to be unanimous*.'

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, in commenting on this report, say :

"'What if there is not? The old usages only require a *vote* of a majority, and any modern regulation or by-law that varies that usage, would be in our judgment illegal.'

"We differ totally with the New York committee in relation to the usage, but admit that it is as stated. We contend it indirectly violates one of the known landmarks of the Order, admitted by the Grand Lodge of New York. If the candidate for initiation had applied to the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resided for admission, he must have obtained a unanimous vote before he could be received ; but if he applies to an adjacent Lodge, where he is probably a stranger, he would be received

upon the recommendation of a bare majority of the Lodge nearest to him, when perhaps every Mason of the minority would have voted against him, had he made his application to that Lodge. If a man desirous to become a Mason, has reason to believe that he will be rejected by the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides, and who are the best judges of his moral character, he has only to get a recommendation from a majority of the Lodge to some other Lodge where he is not known, and he will be admitted, because the Masons of that Lodge know nothing of him and the consent of the Lodge nearest his residence is, of course, under the circumstances, the highest evidence of good character that could be well presented to the Lodge by the candidate.

"Thus, indirectly, the candidate evades the established law of Masonry on this subject, and obtains admission through the action and influence of a bare majority of a Lodge, when it is fair to conclude that every one in the minority would have blackballed the candidate. It will not do to reply by saying that the candidate received the unanimous vote of the distant Lodge, and therefore the constitutions of Masonry were not broken, when we know that the distant Lodge acted with no other evidence of moral worth than the recommendation of the Lodge nearest the candidate, which very Lodge would have probably rejected him had he made his application to that Lodge. Your committee are happy to find that in these views they are sustained by the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, By the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, that the 61st Article of the present Constitution be so amended as to read as follows :

"No candidate for initiation can be received in any Lodge out of the county where he resides, if there is a Lodge in his county, unless he obtains the *unanimous* recommendation of the Lodge within his county." See Apprentices, admission of Members and Candidates, and Ballot in each Degree, Jurisdiction, rejected Candidate.

INDIAN LODGES.

"Brother Okah Tubbee, an Indian, addressed the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire at the communication in January, 1849. A most interesting discussion was had on the subject of establishing Masonic Lodges among the 'Red Men,' and that the Grand Lodge gave the brother the assurance of its willingness to do all in its power to promote the establishment of Masonry among the Indian tribes. The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, believe it will be a failure unless the Indians are first civilized. Your committee know something of Indian character, and agree fully with the New York committee.

GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.

"At the communication of May 2, 1850, his Grace the Duke of Leinster was reelected Grand Master ; George Hoyte, Deputy Grand Master ;

Lord Lundale, Grand Senior Warden. This Grand Lodge recognizes the real Grand Lodge of New York.

JOPPA LODGE, NO. 1, MARYLAND.

"The charter was dated at London, August 18, 1765, Brother Samuel Howard, Master, and attested by John Saltar, Deputy Grand Master, and Samuel Spencer, Grand Secretary, being under the Grand Mastership of Lord Blaney, and Deputy Grand Mastership of Gen. John • Salter.

JURISDICTION.

"The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island say :

"Your committee believe this question to be well settled by general consent, and that in all cases men should be made Masons in the States in which they reside, but a question has grown out of the subject of some importance. We like the suggestion of the Florida committee. They say : 'We think it is for the Lodges to correct this evil by strictly regarding their neighbors' landmarks, by not admitting a stranger without previous satisfactory information, and not by declaring the Mason who has been made in a legally constituted Lodge a clandestine Mason.'

"The Grand Lodge of Mississippi communicated by circular to the Grand Lodge of Florida the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge hereby forbids the subordinate Lodges within this jurisdiction to initiate, pass, or raise any individual residing within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, excepting such as shall present a recommendation for that purpose unanimously adopted at a regular meeting by the Lodge nearest the residence of the petitioner.

"*Resolved*, That the above resolution be sent to the other Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and that they be respectfully requested to adopt a similar one.

"The only difficulty your committee find in the adoption of this resolution, is in requiring the recommendation of a subordinate Lodge, when it is a subject properly under the cognizance and jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. It has been repeatedly decided that the proper medium of communication from subordinate Lodges to Lodges under another jurisdiction or to their Grand Lodge, is through the Grand Lodges of each respectively. Your committee, therefore, recommend the addition of the following words to the resolution : Sanctioned and signed by the Grand Master and attested under the seal of the Grand Lodge by the Grand Secretary, and directed to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State where the candidate proposes to be initiated.

"By Section thirteenth, Article tenth, Constitution of the Grand Lodge of California,

"No Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Mason shall be advanced to a superior degree in any Lodge, except that in which he received the previous degree, unless by consent, in writing, of that Lodge.

"Your committee recommend the amendment of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, by engrafting this section, with the addition of 'unanimous,' before the word 'consent.'

"We find that every Grand Lodge in the Union whose proceedings we have received, protests against this invasion of their jurisdiction, except the Grand Lodge of New York, which, strange as it may appear, has decided that the initiation of candidates in that State, who reside under the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, is no violation of that jurisdiction; yet, seeing its impolicy, *recommends* its subordinate Lodges to abandon the practice, whilst other Grand Lodges, more regardful of the ancient landmarks, are *commanding* their subordinate Lodges not to commit this offense. Whilst every Grand Lodge in the Union has promptly sustained the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York in her recent difficulties, she *recommends* to her subordinate Lodges not to invade the jurisdictional rights of her sister Grand Lodges. We request our brethren of the Grand Lodge of New York, to read attentively the following extract from the Ahiman Rezon, *Dove's Masonic Text-Book*, page eighty-nine :

"Section eight, Chapter seven. As every Lodge has a right to keep itself an entire body, they ought never to interfere in the business of another Lodge. Therefore, it would be highly improper in any Lodge to confer a degree on a brother who is not of their household, for every Lodge ought to be competent to their own business, and are indubitably the best judges of the qualifications of their own members, and it does not follow, as of course, that a brother admitted among the household as an Apprentice to learn the Royal Art, is capable of taking charge of that household, however skilled he may be in his apprenticeship; for there are many very necessary qualifications essential in those who are promoted to the higher orders.

"If Lodges are prohibited from passing and raising Masons initiated in other Lodges, how much more imperative must be the duty not to initiate candidates into the mysteries of Masonry residing within the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges? It is an established rule of ancient Masonry, which the Grand Lodge of New York enforces within her jurisdiction, that candidates residing within the jurisdiction of a subordinate Lodge in New York, shall not be initiated in another subordinate Lodge in that State, without the consent of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the candidate resides; yet the Grand Lodge of New York undertakes to say that she does not violate the jurisdiction of a sister Grand Lodge when she permits one of her subordinate Lodges to initiate a citizen living within another State, and under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of that State.

"In conclusion, we recommend for adoption by the Grand Lodge of New York, Section seventh, Chapter third, of the Methodical Digest of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, *Dove's Masonic Text-Book*, page 252, viz. :

“ ‘No Lodge shall confer a degree on any brother who is not of their household, but a member of some other Lodge, for every Lodge ought to be competent to its own business, and without doubt most capable of judging of the qualifications of its own members ; nor shall any Lodge under this Grand Jurisdiction, initiate, pass, or raise any person who is a resident of *any State or Territory in which there is a Grand Lodge.*’

INSTALLATION.

“The Grand Master-elect of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, was installed by the Past Deputy Grand Master. None but a Grand Master or Past Grand Master can install a Grand Master. See *Dove's Masonic Text-Book*, page two hundred and fifteen.

“The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, in his address, states that he installed the officers of Camden Lodge, working under a dispensation. The officers of the Lodge under dispensation should never be installed. Those having a charter only should receive installation. See report of Corresponding Committee of Grand Lodge of New York communication September 4th, A. L. 5849, page eighty-nine.

GRAND LODGE OF IOWA.

“At the annual communication, June 5th, 1849, ten Lodges were represented ; one of them under dispensation. The Master of that Lodge was, by resolution, ‘permitted to participate in the deliberations of the Grand Lodge.’ Masonry is in a flourishing condition in Iowa.

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York say, in relation to the Grand Lodge of Iowa :

“ ‘The committee of Foreign Correspondence presented their fifth annual report, which, like every thing else in the doings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, is a document almost without a blemish.’

‘Your committee fully concur in the commendation of the New York committee.

GRAND LODGE OF INDIANA.

“There are eighty-one chartered Lodges and twenty-nine working under dispensation. It appears that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida have not been received. We very much regret the failure. Our Grand Secretary has regularly mailed the proceedings of the Grand Lodge to every Grand Lodge in the Union. Total number of members returned to Grand Lodge of Indiana, is three thousand one hundred and fifty ; probable number of non-affiliating Masons, one thousand ; making the probable number of Masons for 1850, four thousand one hundred and fifty. Increase since 1849, nine hundred and seventy-nine.

GRAND LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

“The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, opened the Grand

Lodge of Instruction at Burlington. The Masters of all the organized Lodges were present, with the exception of six. This arrangement, if the attendance of the Masters of Lodges is punctual, your committee consider decidedly the best mode of instruction.

GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY.

"There are two hundred and twenty-four chartered Lodges, and seven working under dispensation, making in all, two hundred and thirty-one Lodges. The receipts and expenditures are about three thousand dollars. The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an able and elaborate report, chiefly in relation to the New York difficulties. How is it that the Grand Secretary, Right Worshipful Philip Swigert, who has so long been distinguished for his Masonic learning, is not placed on the committee on Foreign Correspondence? It appears that twenty-one new Lodges were formed during the year.

LANDMARKS OF ANCIENT MASONRY DESTROYED.

"It is stated by the Grand Master of Missouri, that the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland have stricken out the words *free born* * from the ritual. The Ancient Charge, which no man or body of men can change, is as follows : †

"*Thirdly*, That he that be made be able in all degrees, that is *free born*, of good kindred, true, and no bondsman, and that he have his right limbs as a man ought to have.'

GRAND LODGE OF LOUISIANA.

"Your committee have received no communications from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, but understand from Masonic periodicals, that the two Grand Lodges have united, with the understanding that the accumulation of rites is to be abandoned, and the three degrees of Ancient York Masonry only to be conferred. If such be the fact, and which we do not doubt, we hail the Grand Lodge of Louisiana with heart-felt pleasure, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution by this Grand Lodge :

"*Resolved*, That as soon as the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge shall be officially informed that the two Grand Lodges of Louisiana have united, and formed a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, that he shall direct the Secretary of the Grand Lodge to forward to that Grand Lodge, the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and to request a renewal of Masonic intercourse.

LIBRARY FOR GRAND LODGE.

"Your committee find that the Grand Lodges generally, have established Masonic Libraries. We highly appreciate the advantage to the Craft which must result from the institution of Masonic Libraries. We, therefore, offer the following resolution to the Grand Lodge, for adoption :

* This is a mistake. No such change has ever been made.—COMPILER.

† This is *not* the language of the Ancient Charge, which see in proceedings of 1857.—*Idem*.

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Grand Master, with instructions to report on the subject at the present communication.

GRAND LECTURERS.

"We observe that many Grand Lecturers seem to have forgotten the duties of their office, and instead of reporting in relation to the lectures, work, and condition of subordinate Lodges, they are assuming the duties of Grand Masters, and are inflicting long and uninteresting addresses on their Grand Lodges. We do not wish to be personal, but we hope to see no more of this fustian. It is unmasonic, unintelligible, and wholly out of place.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.

"We find the following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Texas :

"Resolved, That all those brethren who represent Lodges under dispensation take seats as members of this Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master appoint worthy brethren to represent the Lodges not now represented at this Grand communication.

"The Master and Wardens of a Lodge under dispensation may be considered as members of the Grand Lodge, but their powers are assimilated to those of a delegate from a Territory in Congress. They may address the Grand Lodge in relation to their own Lodges, but they cannot vote, nor are they entitled to installation. The Most Worshipful Grand Master has no authority to appoint representatives for Lodges. The Master and Wardens, or their proxies, are the proper representatives of a subordinate Lodge.

WHO TO PRESIDE IN ABSENCE OF THE MASTER OF A LODGE.

"According to the general regulations of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1767, we find the old rule authorizing a Past Master to preside in the absence of the Master, modified as follows :

"If a Master of a particular Lodge, is deposed or dimitts, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill the Master's chair till the next time of choosing, and he ever does in the Master's absence, fill the chair, even though a former Master be present.'

"Dermott, in his *True Ahiman Rezon*, edition of 1772, adds the following words : 'Except he has a mind to honor a more skillful Past Master, which is frequently the case.' 'This regulation has ever since continued in operation unchanged, and indeed it is founded on the very best reasons. The warrant of the constitution by which the power of opening and holding a Lodge is conferred, delegates that power in express terms, to the original Master and Wardens, and their successors in office. No one, therefore, who has not succeeded one of these officers, can legally exercise this power, for a delegated power cannot be transferred to any others than those expressly named in the grant.'

"According to Dalcho's *Ahiman Rezon*, which, Grand Secretary Mackey says, is of course but a compilation from the older authorities,

'It is usual for the Wardens to waive the privilege of the Chair in compliment to any Past Master of the Lodge that may be present, upon the presumption of his experience and skill in conducting the business of the Lodge. But this offer is perfectly optional with the Wardens, for such Past Master still derives his authority under the Wardens, and cannot act until they congregate the Lodge. If neither the Master nor Wardens are present, the oldest Past Master of the Lodge present takes the Chair, and names the members according to seniority and merit, to fill the places of the absent officers. Should there be no such Past Master present, then the Lodge cannot be opened.' See Mackey's *Masonic Miscellany*, Volume 1, No. 2, October, 1850, pages 330-31.

MASONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Virginia state that from reliable information it is estimated that more than 8000 members have been added to the institution in the United States during the preceding year. The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island report a resolution declaring it inexpedient, under the present state of society, for subordinates within their jurisdiction to initiate persons of color. They fully recognize the *right* of all such persons, when they can prove themselves Masons, to a *seat in any Lodge under their jurisdiction*, yet they leave it *optional* with the Lodges whether they will *admit* them or not. This is a strange sort of right, that nobody is bound to regard. The consideration of this report was, with great propriety, indefinitely postponed. Lodges in the United States should act with great caution on this subject. Brethren of the North must know that the admission of negroes will never be tolerated in Lodges of the South. In fact, if harmony is to continue, this is a subject that should never be entertained by any Grand Lodge of the Union.

MASONRY—ANTIQUITIES OF.

"We copy the following from Mackey's *Masonic Miscellany*, Volume 1, No. 12, page 382, 1850 :

"An association has been lately formed at the city of Jerusalem for the purpose of investigating literary and scientific subjects connected with the Holy Land. We may also anticipate from their researches much of either direct or incidental information relative to topics connected with the study of Freemasonry, whose birth-place is to be the seat of these inquiries. Within our own time, says a recent American writer, mysterious inscriptions and characters have been found among the rubbish of Eastern cities, over whose ruins more than forty centuries have rolled, which called forth the wonder of the curious, and puzzled the most learned antiquary, and which none have been found competent to decipher save those who are versed in the higher orders of Masonry.'

MEMBERSHIP.

"We copy the 3d Section, Article 4, Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, as the best Masonic illustration of the right of membership we have seen, viz. :

" 'Whenever the Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, and shall restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.'

"This Grand Lodge, through their committee on Foreign Correspondence, in their report at the annual communication in 1847, protested against the right of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina in suspending several members of Walhalla Lodge for refusing to restore a member who had been expelled by that Lodge. In reply to the report of the committee, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, who acts as a committee of Foreign Correspondence, at the communication in 1848, made the following remarks :

" 'The action of this Grand Lodge in suspending certain members of Walhalla Lodge, for refusing to restore a member, whom they had expelled, to his Masonic rights, has been commented on in terms of disapprobation by some of our sister Grand Lodges, or at least they have expressed doubts whether we have been consistent with our own regulations. On this subject the committee of Correspondence of Florida use the following language : "It would seem that the action of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina has been against her own authority. Can a Grand Lodge impose a member on a subordinate Lodge against its will? In the *Ahiman Rezon* of South Carolina it is declared that unanimity is essential to the well being of every Lodge, and their own members are the most competent judges in this matter. If it were allowed that any foreign or even superior jurisdiction might impose a fractious or disagreeable member upon them it might destroy their harmony, and would entrench upon their liberty, to the great injury if not the total dissolution of such Lodge."

"In answer, Brother Mackey entered into an ingenious and elaborate argument, attempting to make a distinction between the right of a Lodge to refuse admission to membership to a Mason who never belonged to the Lodge, and a Mason who had been expelled by the Lodge. The argument was not satisfactory to the Grand Lodge of Florida, and she was sustained by the Grand Lodges of Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Iowa, and other Grand Lodges.

"We are happy to see from the following report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, that whatever effect the subtle arguments of Grand Secretary Mackey had on others, it could not convince his own discriminating mind :

" 'Some two years ago the Grand Lodge of South Carolina expelled

from Masonry the officers of one of her subordinates because they would not restore to membership an expelled member, whom the Grand Lodge had restored to the privileges of Masonry, and, through her Grand Secretary, invited the attention of Grand Lodges to this proceeding.'

"Your committee, in answer thereto, took the ground that the Grand Lodge was wrong, and these brethren right in their respective *opinions*, for which we were severely reviewed by the Grand Secretary, who, it seems, has changed his opinion, as at the last session he offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That he be restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry, but not to membership in Walhalla Lodge No. 66, without the consent of that Lodge.'

"This is correct doctrine. See *Moore's Monthly Magazine*, Volume 10, No. 1, page 5.

"By Section 2, Article 5, Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, 'No Mason can be a member of more than one Lodge at the same time.' By Section 12, of the Methodical Digest of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Dove's *Masonic Text-Book*, page 252, 'Any brother may be a member of as many Lodges as choose to admit him,' &c. ; and by Section 10, 'No member can be imposed on any Lodge without its consent, by any power whatever.'

"The Grand Lodge of Iowa decided that the mere removal or change of residence does not forfeit or suspend the membership of a brother, and that membership ceases only by dimitting, death, expulsion, or suspension.

"The Grand Lodge of New York has decided that when the members of a Lodge petition for a dispensation to establish a new Lodge, have their membership changed from the date of dispensation, and are no longer members of the old Lodge, but become, by the force of the dispensation, members of the new Lodge.

"The Grand Lodge of Alabama has decided, by a standing regulation, 'That a subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge cannot reinstate a Mason to membership who has been expelled or suspended by another jurisdiction, without first obtaining the consent of that jurisdiction.'

"Your committee consider that no Lodge can reinstate to *membership* any Mason, except the Lodge suspending or expelling him, and that if the subordinate Lodge of which he was a member refuses to reinstate him to the rights and benefits of Masonry, the Grand Lodge alone has that authority ; but if he is simply restored to the rights and benefits of Masonry by the subordinate or the Grand Lodge, that he may then be admitted to membership by any subordinate Lodge.

"The Grand Lodge of Alabama has also very properly decided that the mere refusal to admit a Mason to membership does not inhibit him the rights and privileges to which he is entitled as a Mason. 'Neither

should the circumstance of itself be allowed to operate to his disparagement as a man or Mason.' See C. W. Moore's *Monthly Magazine*, No. 1, Volume 10, page 5, 'admission of candidates,' which we recommend as an able article.

DEGREE OF PAST MASTER.

"The question is whether a Grand Lodge or subordinate Lodge, or any number of Past Masters can confer the degree of Past Master on a Master Mason elected to preside over a Lodge. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, M. W. Jeremiah Moore, says : 'My own opinion is they cannot.'

"The following resolution was adopted by his Grand Lodge :

"*Resolved*, That it is necessary for a Master Mason, when elected to preside over a Lodge, before entering upon the duties of his office, to receive a proper qualification, and that qualification shall be to bind him faithfully and impartially to discharge the duties of a Master of a Lodge, together with the ancient Charges and Regulations, as laid down in *Cooper's Monitor* and *Moore's Craftsmen*, and nothing more; and that any present or Past Master who has received the aforesaid qualifications be authorized to perform the said ceremony when requested.'

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, on page 91 of their distinguished report, and which your committee have drawn from so copiously, have, according to the opinion of your committee, taken the correct view on this subject. We copy their own appropriate language :

"'He has no right (by the ancient usages) to take the seat of Master, or exercise any of the duties of the office, until he has regularly received what is here alluded to as the 'Past Master's Degree.' It is *not a degree*, but simply a part of the necessary installation service of a Master-elect, who has not received it before, and is so essential that it cannot and must not be omitted.'

"The New York committee thus far has the approbation of your committee. Here they were done, and should have stopped, but when they proceed to state that the Master-elect receives all his installation that he should receive in a Chapter, it seems they are begging the question. To establish their position, the committee state :

"'Before the establishment of Royal Arch Chapters, the Blue Lodges conferred all the degrees, including the Royal Arch.'

"We admit it, but after the establishment of the Royal Arch separate from Blue Lodges, all the degrees above Masters were transferred to the Royal Arch. According to the reasoning of the New York committee, Blue Lodges can now confer the Royal Arch degree, because they once exercised that power, and if they can confer the Past Master's degree, as conferred in the Chapter, why not confer the Mark degree, which precedes the Past degree? The fact is, Masons of the Blue Lodges must look to their charters for their powers. They will find only authority to enter, pass, and raise to the degree of Master

Mason. The Most Worshipful Grand Master is not required to be any thing else than a Master Mason. We agree, however, with the New York committee that the so-called *Past Master's degree* conferred on the Master-elect is no degree, but simply an installation, which is absolutely necessary before he enters into the duties of his office. Mackey, in his *Masonic Lexicon*, says :

“ ‘Past Master is an honorary degree conferred on the Worshipful Master at his installation into office.’

“Dove, in his *Masonic Text-Book*, page 201, notices thus this installation degree :

“ ‘The order of Past Masters, commonly called the Past Master's degree. This degree treats of the government of our society, the disposition of its rulers, and illustrates their requisite qualifications. It includes the ceremony of opening and closing Lodges in the several preceding degrees : it comprehends the ceremonies and forms of constitution, consecration, installation, laying the corner-stones of public edifices, and also at dedications and funerals, by a variety of particulars explanatory of these ceremonies.’

“This is placed in the *Text-Book*, immediately following the Master's degree, and the account given shows that it is, properly speaking, no degree, but the *ceremony of installation*. He takes care not to call it a degree, but designates it most appropriately the order of Past Masters, *commonly called the Past Master's degree*. This order of Past Masters properly belongs to a Blue Lodge, but it must be evident to every Mason who has taken the degree of Past Master in a Chapter, that this *order* of Past Master, or installation of Master-elect of a Lodge, is not the *degree* of Past Master conferred in a Chapter.

MASONIC “TEXT-BOOK.”

“The Grand Lodge of Florida at the last annual communication passed resolutions accepting the offer of the copyright of the *Masonic Text-Book*, by Right Worshipful John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, for the use of the Grand Lodge, ordered a reprint of the work, and recommended the adoption of the *Text-Book* by our sister Grand Lodges. We are much gratified to see that the work has been generally favorably reported upon by the committees of our sister Grand Lodges. It appears to be the opinion of all intelligent Masons that the adoption of the *Text-Book* by the several Grand Lodges would obviate the necessity of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, and produce uniformity in work and Masonic legislation, not to be attained by any other method. This can be effected at little cost, and it is all-important that it should be done promptly, as it is now certain that no General Grand Lodge will be established.

MASONRY UNCHANGEABLE.

“We copy the following extract from the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire :

“As regards the principles of Freemasonry, no improvement can possibly be made ; therefore no place for change is found, and for this reason. Masonry is an institution founded, to use the language of our brother, Geo. Washington, “in the immutable laws of truth and justice.”

MASTER OF A LODGE.

“The Master of a Lodge must be a Warden or Past Warden. See Lodge.

“We find the following standing resolution of the Grand Lodge of Alabama :

“That should any subordinate Lodge feel aggrieved by the conduct of their Master, that charges may be preferred by one-third of the said Lodge against him, and forwarded to the Most Worshipful Grand Master or the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, who shall order three Masters of the Lodges nearest the Lodge to try the case.’

“The Master of a Lodge cannot be tried by his own Lodge, or any other subordinate Lodge, or any committee named by the Grand Master. He is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone, and can be tried only by that body in Grand communication. The power to try him cannot be conferred by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge on a committee of the Grand Lodge, however distinguished may be the members of that committee. The Master’s right of trial by the whole Grand Lodge is as securely guaranteed by the Constitutions of Masonry, as his right to trial by jury is guaranteed to him as a citizen under the constitution of the United States.

MONTREAL AND WILLIAM HENRY GRAND LODGE.

“We have received no proceedings of this Grand Lodge since our last communication, although the Grand Secretary has regularly forwarded our proceedings. From the report of the Corresponding Committee of New York, this Grand Lodge is in a flourishing condition. It is in correspondence with most, if not all, of the Grand Lodges in the United States. Each officer of the Grand Lodge pays a fee on his election. The Provincial Grand Master holds his office by warrant from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England ; the other Grand Officers are appointed by him, except the Grand Treasurer, who is elected by the Provincial Grand Lodge by ballot. They are building a Grand Lodge, with a Hall for the Grand Chapter, and an Orphan’s Asylum.

GRAND LODGE OF MISSISSIPPI.

“It appears from the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, held February 4, 1850, that fifty-eight chartered Lodges were represented, and eight under dispensation. The Grand Lodge, and Masonry generally under its jurisdiction, is in the most prosperous condition. The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York are highly complimentary in their comments on the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

"We copy the following from the New York report :

"All her decisions at this communication are sound, commendable, prudent, and wise, with the exception of the following resolution, viz. :

"Resolved, That a recommendation of a subordinate Lodge authorizing a candidate to take the degrees in another Lodge out of the jurisdiction, must be passed at a regular meeting, and by an unanimous vote."

"Your committee have the misfortune to differ with the New York committee in relation to this resolution. We consider it clearly and decidedly correct. See Initiation, Jurisdiction.

GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN.

"We have before us the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at Detroit, January 9, 1850. There were seventeen chartered Lodges, and eleven under dispensation, at the annual communication, January 10, 1849. At this communication, twenty-two chartered Lodges were represented, and eleven under dispensation.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence made, as usual, an able and interesting report. We find the matters therein contained were referred to a committee of three. This is decidedly in violation of all parliamentary or Masonic rule ; and although not intended as a reflection on the ability of the committee of Correspondence, shows want of confidence or distrust. We speak freely on this subject, as a similar course, on one or two occasions, has been taken by our own Grand Lodge, but not, we believe, from want of confidence in your committee.

• GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

"We have received no communications from this Grand Lodge, although our proceedings have been regularly mailed to their Grand Secretary. We have, however, a review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge by the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York. The Grand Master, in his address, stated that Grand Lodge as the oldest in America, and that they were just entering their 116th year. Brother John Loring resigned his office of Grand Treasurer, after having faithfully served in that office twenty-two years. He was offered the office of Grand Master, which he declined, but was then elected Senior Warden, which he accepted. Masonry is prosperous within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge ; an almost unprecedented unanimity and kind feeling exists among the members.

NON-AFFILIATED MASONS.

"Is it proper for a subordinate Lodge to take cognizance of the complaints or charges of non-affiliated Masons against members of a Lodge ? To this inquiry the Select Committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa reply, 'That it is the duty of every Mason to join some Lodge in the vicinity ; if he neglects to do so, he subjects himself to Masonic

censure, and most certainly should forfeit many of the rights and benefits that are conceded to members. It is contrary to the rules of equity that they who willfully withhold support should receive support. Nevertheless, in the judgment of your committee, no Mason thus situated should be debarred the privilege of presenting complaints against members of a Lodge.' Your committee will add, more especially as *he* may be tried before a Lodge in his vicinity upon charges presented by any member of the Lodge.

"The Grand Lodges of Connecticut and Maryland agree in the propriety of letting non-affiliating members alone, and to regard them only as 'drones in the hive of nature.'

"The resolution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, taxing non-affiliated Masons, was rescinded at the last annual communication.

"The Grand Lodge of Iowa passed resolutions requiring subordinate Lodges to return the names of non-affiliated Masons residing within their respective jurisdictions, which has been done, the names being appended to the return from each Lodge.

"The Grand Lodge of Florida adopted a similar resolution at our last communication. It is important that the Craft, who are contributing members, should know the drones of Masonry residing in our jurisdiction. Upon this subject, we refer to the report of his Excellency Thomas Brown, chairman of the committee of Foreign Correspondence at the annual communication of 1848.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK.

"Your committee have the heart-felt pleasure to communicate to the Grand Lodge that they have recently received an official communication of the union of the brethren of St. John's Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodge of New York, which was to be consummated on St. John's day, the 27th of December last. The pleasure of the company of the first six Grand Officers of each Grand Lodge in the Union and Canada was requested to attend a festival at Tripler Hall, Broadway, New York, on that day.

"The New York and Louisiana Masonic difficulties being thus happily reconciled, we congratulate the Fraternity on the bright and cheering prospects, for we do not regard, as a feather in the balance, the ravings of the New York rioters. They are out of the pale of Masonry, and their actings and doings are about as important as the proceeding of their neighbors, the Millerites.

"We must, however, confess that we are utterly astonished at the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, which we received by the last mail. The following resolution, among others, reported by a special committee, was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That until the existing difficulties in the Grand Lodge of New York be amicably adjusted, or some new feature developed, this Grand Lodge cannot recognize either one of the present organizations.'

"This is a singular specimen of non-intervention, and is about as appropriate as if the chairman of the committee who reported the resolution, should come upon a robber attacking a traveler, and should say to them that, until the existing difficulties between you are amicably adjusted, I will not interfere. Let us ask the Grand Lodge of Ohio if the Negro Lodges in Ohio, which appear to give them some trouble, should establish a Grand Lodge within their jurisdiction, and this Grand Lodge should pass a similar resolution, what would they think of our Masonic intelligence and brotherly love? We are convinced that our brethren in Ohio have acted without mature consideration. Their position, solitary and alone, will open their eyes and show them they have made a false step, which their usual good sense and kind feelings will induce them to retrace. The Grand Master, however, in his address, does not hesitate to take a different course from the select committee. He says:

"Even the sacred ark has been polluted by the touch of uncircumcised usurpers, who prefer to worship Dagon, rather than the God of Israel. We have a notable example in the acts of certain Philistines in the Grand Lodge of New York. The conduct of these men must be condemned by all true-hearted brethren everywhere."

"At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New York, Juned 4, A. L. 5858, ninety Lodges were represented; one hundred and twenty-four Lodges are returned in good standing under their jurisdiction, and seven under dispensation. The report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York fills eighty-five pages small type. Elaborate as it may appear, it is the concentration of Masonic light and learning. If the report of every Grand Lodge in the Union, in Canada, and the several States of Europe, were lost or destroyed, their most important proceedings would be perpetuated by this report—greatly enhanced in value by the able annotations and clear Masonic elucidations of this distinguished committee. The appendix is ample, and well arranged. It is in fact a most valuable Masonic work, and should be bound and placed in the library of every Grand and subordinate Lodge in the Union.

NEGRO MASONRY.

"We copy the following from the report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

"The New York committee say that the attention of the Grand Lodge (of New York) has been called to the fact of the existence of the clandestine Lodges of colored men, which for some years have been known to exist in that State. A resolution is then appended in which it is declared to be 'inexpedient and tends to mar the present harmony of the Fraternity to admit any persons of color, so called, into the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.' The report says there is somewhere in the

State of Ohio, a body of negroes who assume the authority to establish Lodges of their own race wherever they have the opportunity, we have good reason to believe. We have no doubt there are some such in this city and its vicinity. We have seen the by-laws of one claiming to have been chartered by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, at Chillicothe.'

"It appears, however, from the report of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, acting in the place of a committee of Foreign Correspondence, that the Grand Lodge of Ohio has passed a resolution on this subject similar to the New York resolution quoted above.

"The Grand Lodge of Arkansas declares as follows :

"'As for making Masons of negroes, we have only to say that it is a black transaction, in which the South could never concur.' Vide Masons in the United States.

OREGON LODGES.

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa report that Lodges are at work in Oregon under dispensations issued by the Grand Lodges of several of the States.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

"We find the following standing resolution in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary furnish every brother elected or appointed to fill any office or station in the Grand Lodge, with a certificate of his election or appointment, under the seal of the Grand Lodge. See Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF OHIO.

"It appears from the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at the communication commencing 15th October, A. L. 5850, that there were one hundred and forty-five Lodges represented, and fourteen under dispensation. \$410 has been paid, part from private funds, for education. Amount of School Fund drawn from the Grand Lodge, \$2,512 26½. Number of indigent children assisted, 158. Amount drawn and unexpended, \$2,181 65½. Total receipts of the Grand Secretary \$6,040 75, of which \$3,840 20 was paid to members for their mileage and per diem.

"Whilst we highly appreciate the example set by the Grand Lodge of Ohio in devoting a portion of their funds to the education of indigent children of Masons, we deprecate the practice of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and other Grand Lodges of the North in appropriating the receipts of their Grand Lodges to the payment of members for their attendance. More than one half of the receipts of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, which should be sacredly devoted to charity, is divided amongst the members attending the communications. What benefit to Masonry can result from the attendance of a crowd of representatives, many of

whom must be ignorant of their duties, and who no doubt, avail themselves of their mileage and per diem in attending to their private affairs at Cincinnati? If the members are really devoted to the principles of Masonry, why not make the small sacrifice of paying their own expenses, so that the whole of the Grand Lodge fund may be applied to the objects of the institution? The pay roll of a Grand Lodge was never heard of until recently, and has been adopted in imitation of the Legislators of the States, as we have incorporated into our proceedings, but with less injury to the Craft, Parliamentary rules and terms derived from these assemblies.

"If our brethren of Ohio will examine the Book of Constitutions, they will find a pay roll of a Grand Lodge unknown. We cannot too often refer to the Ahiman Rezen and compare our acts as Masons with our duties as there prescribed. It appears from the address of the Grand Master that several charters have been stolen from the subordinate Lodges. It is probable that in this way the negro Lodge in the city of New York obtained its charter.

ORDERS AND STANDING RULES.

"We find that the Grand Lodges of several States publish the Orders and Standing Rules annually with their proceedings. This is absolutely necessary. What does it avail to have this rule settled by the Grand Lodge if the subordinate Lodges are ignorant of them?

"*Resolved*, By this Grand Lodge, that the Grand Secretary publish annually with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge all standing Rules and Regulations which have been or may be established by their order, together with the roll of Past Grand Officers, members of the Grand Lodge, dates of their elections, terms of service, &c.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

"This Grand Lodge, we understand, publishes no proceedings; at least we received none. Under her original charter she claims the authority to confer the Chapter Degrees, and is opposed to a General Grand Chapter or Lodge. We copy the following from the report of the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland:

"*Pennsylvania*.—This Ancient Grand Lodge gives us no light whereby to recognize whether she is prosperous or not; indeed her very existence might be problematical were it not for other testimony than her own. She furnishes us with no printed record of her proceedings, nor does she let us know what derelict members she discharges from her borders.' We hope Rip Van Winkle will wake up.

PROTEST OF A LODGE.

"Brother Mason, of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, presented a *protest* against the action of the Grand Lodge as representative of Warren Lodge, No. 15, in repealing the resolution of 1844, in relation to Lodge dues. The Grand Lodge ordered 'that it be filed but not entered on

the minutes of the Grand Lodge.' A protest is unknown in Masonry, and is one of the many innovations introduced from legislative bodies into Grand and subordinate Lodges. The protest should not have been received by the Grand Lodge.

PETITIONS FOR INITIATION.

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana report:

"That in the opinion of your committee, after a petition has been duly presented to a Lodge, it should not be withdrawn without a ballot, unless application is made for that purpose before the committee to whom it has been referred report upon it, and then only for good cause and upon a vote of three-fourths of the members present at a stated meeting.'

"The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, remarks, that:

"Your committee deem that when a petition for initiation has been once received by a Lodge, it should not be *withdrawn*, but *acted on*, more especially after it has been placed in the charge of a committee of investigation.'

"What is the motive for withdrawing a petition under the above circumstances? Nine times out of ten it is ascertained that some objection to the applicant existed, and his friend is desirous to avoid the pain of a rejection. The 7th Section of Article 9 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida, is in unison with the decision of the Maryland committee, and is evidently the true Masonic rule.

"The Grand Lodge of Alabama has decided that if an appeal is not taken from a subordinate Lodge within twelve months, the time limited by their Constitution, the matter cannot afterwards be brought before the Grand Lodge by memorial.

"The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York say the decision involves the *question*, 'within what time may or can a member of the Fraternity who is suspended or expelled ask to be restored?' We had heretofore thought he might at any time during life. An appeal is one thing, a petition is quite another. A memorial is but a petition. An appeal to be heard for the reversal of a decision ought to be brought within a reasonable period, and perhaps a year is long enough, but a petition for restoration, recommended and accompanied by an humble submission, at what time should it be denied, or thrust out from a hearing, or from reception? Your committee reply, at no time, and state that the action of this Grand Lodge has always been in conformity to the opinion expressed by the Maryland committee. See Admission, Apprentices, Initiation.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

"Many Grand Lodges have attempted to mitigate what they conceived to be the harshness of the Ancient Masonic rule on this subject, by constructions favorable to the candidate. The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, which mitigated the ancient rule many years since to admit Governor John Pope, who had lost an arm, have recently come to the conclusion that it would be best to come back to the old landmarks of the Order. Florida, who followed her lead, has long since come to that conclusion.

"We cannot express the views of your committee on this subject so clearly as has been done by the Grand Secretary Mackey; we, therefore, take the liberty of giving an extract from his report to the Grand Lodge of South Carolina:

"'Lastly, as to the physical qualifications, the *Ahiman Rezon* leaves no doubt on this subject, but expressly declares that every applicant for initiation 'must be a man, free born, of lawful age, in the perfect enjoyment of his senses, hale and sound, and not deformed or dismembered.' This is one of the ancient landmarks of the Order, which it is in the power of no body of men to change. A man having but one arm or one leg, or who is in any way deprived of his due proportion of limbs or members, is as incapable of initiation as a woman.'

PARLIAMENTARY TERMS.

"Such as adjourn, previous question, yeas and nays, committee of the whole, etc., in the transaction of Masonic business, is condemned by the Grand Lodge of Iowa. We find the following in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

"'Brother Callahan demanded the previous question, but the call not being sustained, the resolution was laid over one day.'

"These terms are unknown to ancient Masonry, and should at once be discarded by all Lodges.

PROCESSIONS.

"Mackey, in his *Lexicon*, says:

"'Processions in Masonry are entirely under the charge of the Grand Lodge. No subordinate Lodge has a right to appear in public on any occasion without the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge, or of its representative, the Grand Master.'

"The Grand Lodge of Iowa makes a single exception to this rule, which seems reasonable, viz., in the case of Masonic burial by a subordinate Lodge. See funeral processions.

PROCEEDINGS OF GRAND LODGES TO BE BOUND.

"The Grand Lodge of Maine passed the following resolution, which we recommend for adoption by this Grand Lodge:

"*Resolved*, To collect, as far as practicable, the annual reports of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge since its organization, and to have the same neatly bound in suitable volumes, and deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge.

"That Grand Lodge also recommends the collecting and publishing their proceedings from the institution of their Grand Lodge, which we also recommend to our own Grand Lodge for their adoption.

"The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, recommend to the several Grand Lodges of the United States that they should for the future print their proceedings upon pages of uniform size, say the size of the *Freemason's Monthly Magazine*, so that they may be bound in uniform volumes. This we consider all important, and should be agreed to by all Grand Lodges if they contemplate forming Grand Lodge libraries.

RESTORATION TO MASONRY

"By Grand Lodge does not restore to membership. See membership. The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, in commenting on the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, make the following quotation :

"'*Restoration.*—Peter P. Hall, Independence Lodge, No. 10, an expelled Master Mason, was restored to the privileges of Masonry by said Independence Lodge, January 1st, A. L. 5850.'

"The New York committee remarks :

"'This is in accordance with the powers of subordinate Lodges and the usages of Masonry time out of mind.'

"Your committee fully concur with the New York committee, and have no doubt of the right of a subordinate Lodge to expel from the rights and benefits of Masonry, or to restore the expelled Mason. See expulsion, membership, and petition.

REJECTED CANDIDATES.

"A rejected candidate cannot make a second application until after the expiration of twelve months from the date of his rejection. The second clause of Section seventh, Article eighth, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida is as follows :

"'Nor can a candidate who has been once rejected, be knowingly received in any other Lodge under this jurisdiction without the consent of the Lodge which rejected him.'

"The construction which your committee give to this clause, is that the *consent* of the Lodge is Masonically understood to mean *unanimous consent*. See jurisdiction, initiation, ballot, Apprentices.

REMOVAL.

"By the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, it is provided, by Section thirteenth, part fifth, that 'the removal of a brother into another jurisdiction, does not of itself authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of the Lodge of which he is a member.'

"The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island passed the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the mere removal or change of residence does not forfeit or destroy the membership of a brother, but that it ceases only by dimitting, expulsion, or death. See membership.

EXPULSION FROM A ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

"The Grand Lodges of Florida, New York, Virginia, Wisconsin, and all other Grand Lodges where this subject has been considered, have decided that the expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter is not an expulsion from a Blue Lodge, except the Grand Lodges of Maryland and Arkansas. The Grand Lodge of Florida, and other Grand Lodges who have sustained her position on this subject, have the sanction of *Mackey's Masonic Lexicon*, a host within itself. We copy from page 100 title Expulsion :

"Does expulsion from one of what is called the higher degrees of Masonry, such as a Chapter or Encampment, affect the relations of the expelled party to Blue Masonry? We answer unhesitatingly, It does not.' See Expulsion.

REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

"The representative system was adopted first by New York. A majority of the Grand Lodges followed her example, but in consequence of the expense, or some other cause, even the Grand Lodges adopting the system, neglected it. We do not know that the Grand Lodge of New York will be affected by the discontinuance of the system in the United States, but we know well that the Grand Lodges who have withdrawn their representatives from the Grand Lodge of New York, the focus of Masonic light in America, have everything to lose. We, at our last annual communication, reported in favor of an interchange of representatives at least between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York. We should take care, in our isolated position, how we bar out the light of Masonry. We again recommend to the Grand Lodge the interchange of representatives between this Grand Lodge and that of New York.

RAISING.

"The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin passed a resolution requiring only a majority vote to pass an Entered Apprentice or to raise a Fellow Craft. It is scarcely necessary for your committee to say this is a violation of the ancient usages of the Craft. See Apprentices, Initiation.

RESIGNATION OF OFFICERS OF A LODGE.

"The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia has decided that neither of the principal officers of a Lodge can, after their acceptance of the said offices, resign the same, 'but those places must be filled in the absence of either from the Lodge, by the next officer in rank, or in the absence of all, by a Past Master.' The usages of ancient Masonry go further. No Mason elected to any office can refuse to accept, unless he has previously served in the same office. See Lodge, who to preside.

SUSPENSION.

"According to the Methodical Digest, *Dove's Masonic Text-Book*, Chapter fifth, Section eighth, in all cases of suspension, the person

suspended is thereby absolutely precluded from all and every the benefits and privileges of Masonry throughout the Masonic world, during the term of said suspension. See Expulsion.

SIGNATURE OF GRAND OFFICERS.

"We copy the following standing order from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and recommend the adoption of a similar resolution by this Grand Lodge :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary, when communicating to the respective Grand Lodges, with which a correspondence is preserved, the result of any election of officers of this Grand Lodge, wherein a change may have been made, shall accompany the same with the signatures of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, written with their own proper hand, and duly authenticated under the seal of this Grand Lodge, together with a request to each and every such Grand Lodge, that they will henceforth, and as often hereafter as by any change of Grand Officers it may be rendered important, furnish to this Grand Lodge a similar document.

SECESSION OF A SUBORDINATE LODGE.

"The Grand Lodge of Georgia contends for the right of secession in the subordinate Lodges. This idea has its origin in the political notions of the day, which has nothing to do with Masonic institutions. The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York make the following appropriate remarks on this subject :

" 'Now we insist that this doctrine is entirely erroneous. We have never, in our whole Masonic life, seen a decision of a Grand Lodge, a report of a committee, or a Masonic book of any kind, in which such a doctrine was advocated or even hinted at, until it was put forth by the persons, or some of them, who formed a clandestine Grand Lodge in New York City last June, and the Georgia committee on the occasion,' etc.

"We know in Masonry only Grand Lodges and *subordinate Lodges*, and we have never before heard of a lawful *insubordinate Lodge*. We would recommend to the members of the committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, a more faithful reading of the installation of officers of a Lodge—the Ancient Charges and *Ahiman Rezon*.

SIDE DEGREES.

"Several Grand Lodges are opposed to these degrees—others, including New York, are in favor. We can see no injury from the conferring of them. They are the means by which the wives, widows, and orphans of Masons make themselves known. They have been conferred in Europe, for near four centuries, and are under the protection of the Grand Lodges of Europe.

TRIAL.

"To refuse to pass an Apprentice who is 'under the tongue of evil report' is not sufficient cause to authorize the Lodge to institute proceedings against him as an offender, but if no charge is preferred, the Lodge is not under any obligations, nor would it be at liberty, to pass and raise an unworthy brother. See *Moore's Magazine*, vol. 10, No. 2, page 39.

TESTS.

"No religious tests are admitted in Masonry, except a belief in God.

GRAND TREASURER.

"The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were admitted members of the Grand Lodges, according to Brother James Anderson's *Constitutions of Masonry*, May 10, 1727.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

"Communication at Austin, January 21, A. D. 1850, Most Worshipful George M. Patrick, Grand Master. There are fifty-four chartered Lodges under this jurisdiction. This Grand Lodge is the most prosperous of any in the Union, taking into consideration that this was only the thirteenth annual communication. The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced the deaths of Most Worshipful Anthony Butler, Past Grand Master, and Worshipful C. S. Ives, Grand Chaplain. The Grand Secretary states in his report that not one unsettled account remains on the Secretary's books.

GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE.

"We have received no proceedings from this Grand Lodge. We regret it much, as we always look for light from the land of Tannehill. We have regularly mailed our proceedings to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. We learn from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia that, at the stated meeting of the 2d of October, A. L. 5848, there appeared, beside the Grand Officers and about fifty Past Masons, the Representatives of sixty-four chartered Lodges out of seventy-three, and of nineteen Lodges under dispensation out of twenty-one, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in his remarks, adverted to 'the present unparalleled prosperity of the Fraternity in that State.'

VISITING BROTHER.

"By Section 12, Part 5, *Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine*, 'A Visiting Brother has a right to call for the Charter of the Lodge he desires to visit.' By a standing resolution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, a Lodge has the right to refuse admission to any Visiting Brother, but that justice to the applicant should induce them to state in their records the cause of his not being admitted.

GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA.

"At the annual communication, December 10, 1849, the Grand Lodge of Virginia objects to the practice of a 'Grand committee of the whole.' It appears that thirteen charters for Lodges were issued.

"We have also received the proceedings of a special communication of the Grand Lodge on February 21, A. L. 5850, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of a monument to be erected to the memory of

our illustrious brother, Gen. George Washington. The Governor of Virginia, J. B. Floyd, and the President of the United States, Z. Taylor, were present at the ceremonies, and a very eloquent oration was delivered on the occasion by Most Worshipful Robert G. Scott, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

VOTES.

"We observe from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, that the delegates from the Lodges under dispensation were allowed one vote in the election of Grand Officers. It is scarcely necessary to say this is radically wrong. See Dispensation.

"The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ohio requires the vote by yeas and nays. This is not Masonic. It should be by ballot or show of hands. By Rule 16 Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts may vote in the transaction of all *business* pertaining to their respective degrees. All business of every description, or relating to any degree, should be transacted in a Master's Lodge, and of course none but Master Masons can vote. The work and lectures in the Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts' Lodges, are all the business that these Lodges can transact, and which requires no vote to be taken.

WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

"This splendid monument to our illustrious brother, George Washington, is rapidly progressing. The Grand and subordinate Lodges and Chapters have been requested to contribute to its erection, and from the information we have received, they are answering the call with the accustomed liberality of the Order.

WARDENS.

"See Lodge, who to preside in absence of the Master.

WISCONSIN GRAND LODGE.

"We have received the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at the annual communication, December 12, A. L. 5849, William R. Smith, Grand Master. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is as usual a very able and lucid exposition of the most interesting Masonic subjects. We have drawn largely on it in our report, as will be seen under the appropriate heads. We notice a return of nineteen Lodges. It is scarcely necessary for us to say that Masonry is prosperous under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge from whence the rays of purest light penetrate even to this distant land.

WARRANTS.

"The Grand Lodge of New Jersey passed the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That in all cases of resuscitation of old warrants that have lain dormant, such resuscitation shall restore none of the old members of the Lodge formerly working under such warrant so resuscitated, except those who shall apply for such resuscitation."

"Your committee hail with heart-felt pleasure the triumphant march of Masonry in Florida. We submit our report to the indulgence of the Grand Lodge and the Fraternity at large. Our great object is usefulness to the Craft, without any affectation of ornate composition.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman.*"

The minutes were then read and approved, and the Grand Lodge of Florida was closed in AMPLE FORM, and in peace and harmony.

THOMAS DOUGLAS, *Grand Master.*

JOHN B. TAYLOR, M.D., *Grand Secretary.*

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
G R A N D L O D G E O F F L O R I D A :

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 12, 1852.

M. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, *Grand Master.*

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 12th, A. D. 1852, A. L. 5852, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge, and was opened in AMPLE FORM.

Grand officers present :

M. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL S. SIBLEY, as Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, P. G. W., as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. FRANCIS I. WHEATON, as Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
W. B. C. POPE, as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. S. S. KNIGHT, Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

And a due representation of subordinate Lodges.

On motion, the following resolution was read and adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed to wait on Brother A. G. Mackey, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and introduce him to the Grand Lodge, and that said committee be directed to introduce Brother Mackey at such time as they may be directed to do so by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Brothers Brown, Duval and Shine were appointed said committee.

The Grand Master appointed Brothers Shine, Pope, and Boardman a committee on Returns and Credentials.

Brother Boardman offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That Brother A. G. Mackey be requested to deliver an address in one of the churches in this city upon the installation of the Grand Officers, and that a committee be appointed to make suitable arrangements.

Which was adopted, and Brothers Boardman, Fletcher, and S. S. Knight were appointed said committee.

The Grand Master appointed Brothers Wheaton, Harlow, and Dell on Dispensations and By-Laws.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past six, P. M.

MONDAY, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

Right Worshipful Brother A. G. Mackey, Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, was introduced by the committee of Arrangements, and received with Masonic honors.

The M. W. Grand Master delivered the following address :

“BRETHREN :—The ever rolling tide of Time has brought round once more our Grand annual communication, and by the Providence of Him who rules in the armies of heaven and amongst the inhabitants of the earth—that Being whom we are all taught to worship and adore, and to whom our thanksgiving and praises are ever justly due—we are assembled to deliberate upon the great interests of our valued and beloved Institution ; and with a due conviction of the responsibility that rests upon us collectively and individually, permit me solemnly to enjoin upon all and each of the members of this Grand Lodge, now when entering upon the business before us, to remember and obey that solemn injunction that is always imposed upon even the youngest Entered Apprentice : ‘Before any great and important undertaking, always to implore the aid of the Deity ;’ and relying upon that aid, let us proceed in this great work with alacrity and zeal—a work which will, I trust, be much shortened by that union and harmony and general prosperity which almost everywhere prevail throughout the Masonic world. But two or three discordant notes break in to disturb the peace and quiet of the Order and to mar its prosperity.

“Within our own particular jurisdiction, all is, I believe, harmony and peace. Differences of opinion upon certain subjects may exist. It is natural that it should be so. Freemasonry pretends to no infallibility, but is subject to all the errors incident to human infirmity. In the spirit of that charity, however, which is the brightest gem in the jewel that crowns our venerable Order, I most humbly trust that if we cannot always all unite in opinion upon any given subject, we shall, at least, ‘agree to differ.’ We should always remember that every brother has the same right as ourselves to the exercise of his own private judgment, and we ought surely to presume, in the absence of indubitable proof, that it is always conscientiously exercised ; and if we at any time have reason to believe that a brother errs, our duty

is to give him friendly warning, and aid a reformation. Were this course always pursued, there would (I will venture to say) be no strife or 'contention, but that noble contention or rather emulation of who can best work and best agree.'

"Our hearts and our lives, brethren, should be living witnesses of the spirit and tendency of Freemasonry, stronger and more impressive than any evidence of the pages of the past. What said the beloved disciple, whose name we all delight to honor? 'Brethren, I write no *new* commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning; and this is the message that ye had from the beginning, that ye love one another. He that loveth his brother, abideth in the light; but he that hateth his brother, walketh in darkness; God is love, and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him.' 'Most strange and inexplicable amalgamation! Deity incorporated into the creature; the creature exalted into Deity; there is no human arithmetic by which the height of the dignity of this exaltation can be computed. Human language cannot express the unmeasured sublimity of such a destiny. It surpasses comprehension: it is bewildering, yet it is true; and there it is, with all its lofty and glorious distinctions, within the reach of every one who will conform to its plain and simple requirements.'

"My dear brethren, do you conform to these plain and simple prescriptions? If you have not hitherto done so, let me exhort you to 'ask that ye may receive; to seek that ye may find.' Let us press onward until we obtain that love which kindles and feeds the secret fire of devotion, and which, 'like the warmth of summer, converts the dark and sterile soul into life and verdure and fruitfulness; animating every affection, invigorating every service; giving vital pulses to the courage, strengthening for all conflicts, and continuing its sacred operations until the heart is purged from all its dross, all its groveling alloy of earthliness, and made meet for high fellowship with the "Father of Lights," and the spirits of just men made perfect, forever and ever.'

"Then shall the top-stone be brought forth with shouting and praise to him who shall have brought us out of darkness into his marvelous light. This is that heaven-born principle, Charity, that teaches the *golden rule*. It has been appropriately called the crowning jewel of our Order, and should be illustrated by the life and conduct of every member of this Fraternity.

Since the close of the last session of this Grand Lodge, I have issued a dispensation to the requisite number of Master Masons to open a Lodge and confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, in Allegator, East Florida. I attended and assisted in its organization. The record of its proceedings, together with a copy of its by-laws, will be laid before you. They will show that the proper spirit and feeling prevail in that quarter.

"A Royal Arch Chapter has also been organized there, and another in Ocala, under dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida. Both of them are flourishing, and their tendency will be to elevate the character and extend the influence of our Order in East Florida.

"We have now twenty-three Lodges in this State, all of which are working under regular warrants except the one at Alligator, which will apply for a warrant at the present session ; and the required number of Master Masons, duly recommended, are knocking at our door for a warrant to open a Lodge at Micanopee, in East Florida, and others for another Lodge in Gadsden county. Throughout this State, Masonry is enjoying a high degree of prosperity, and the respective Lodges are working with due regularity.

"There are slight variations in their mode of work, which must always be the case until we can have a thoroughly accomplished Grand Lecturer, who will make it his business to travel the circuit of the State, visit all the Lodges, correct their irregularities, and cause them all to work according to one regular uniform system. This no one can be expected to do without adequate compensation. That the Fraternity are not, I fear, at present able to pay. There is another mode by which much good may be done, and an approximation made towards such an uniformity, which is by holding Lodges of improvement, where the principal officers, or some intelligent and active members of the Lodges of a District, for instance, might meet, open a Lodge and go through '*pro forma*' with all the regular work of the three Symbolic Degrees, and lecture upon them. If, in addition to this, some of the more active and zealous brethren of each District, who may have attended these Lodges of improvement, could meet at some central place, open a Lodge, and go through the work and lectures in the same manner, the work would be rendered more uniform. These Lodges are calculated, in an eminent degree, to excite the attention and ardor of the Craft, to extend acquaintance and social intercourse among the brethren, and strengthen the ties which bind together the Masonic edifice.

"The money which was appropriated at the last Grand annual communication of this Grand Lodge, and by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida, at its last Grand annual convocation, for the purchase of books to form the nucleus of a Masonic Library, has been expended in the purchase of such books as, in the judgment of the committee to whom that matter was entrusted, are best calculated to insure the purpose which those bodies had in view in making those appropriations. The report of that committee will show a list of the books selected, with their respective prices. This I deem a very important movement on the part of this Grand Lodge, and take the liberty to suggest the propriety of its making a small appropriation annually, to be placed in some judicious hands, for the purpose of adding from time to

time to this collection. These books will, I trust, be a great benefit to our institution. To make them so, however, they must be read, not cursorily, not carelessly, not casually, but carefully, attentively, constantly, until the reader shall be master of their contents. They contain a vast fund of information, valuable not only to the Mason, but to the antiquarian and the scholar.

"Godwin, in his '*Thoughts on Man*,' says: 'That a book does not deserve to be read which does not impose on us the duty of frequent pauses, much reflection, and inward debate, or require that we should often go back, compare one observation and statement with another, and does not call upon us to combine and knit together the "*disjecta membra*."' "

"Most of these books will be found, on perusal, in an eminent degree to require all this of the reader; and whoever reads them with an earnest desire for information, and puts in practice this requisition, will be amply compensated for all his time and labor.

"Masonry is a science, and, like all other sciences, to be of any considerable value, its history, philosophy, and general principles must be studied and mastered so as to be well understood. In this, as in other sciences, 'a little learning is a dangerous thing,' and this study and a thorough imbibing of these principles are the only things that can (in the proper sense of the word), make a man a Mason. To go through the forms and ceremonies of receiving the several degrees in a Lodge, and the having his name enrolled on the list of members, no more makes a man a Mason than going through the ceremonies of admission into a Christian Church and having his name inscribed on the list of members makes him a Christian. Masonry is not a mere set of idle ceremonies, but it is a thing of the heart and of the understanding also. 'The principles of Masonry are not superficial—they are deep, vast, comprehensive—they are fraught with valuable subjects of investigation, which are not easily exhausted. They require, as they admit, of long and patient examination and research,' and they will well repay all the time and labor bestowed upon them. To the reflecting mind they afford pure and lasting pleasure, and when we add the good moral effects which they are so well calculated to produce, the lessons of duty and obligation which they teach and enforce on the mind of the inquirer, I am at a loss to determine how any one can be satisfied to pass them by with indifference and neglect.

"'Masonry has a *soul* as well as a *body*. It is not a magnificent temple, beautiful in proportions, rich in architectural taste, and lovely in its outward adornments, but empty, desolate, and dark within. If it is brilliant and comely without, its inner courts, and sacred halls, and private chambers are immeasurably more so. If its outward splendors bespeak the habitation of a Divinity (I would invite you, in the language of our respected Brother Mackey, to) go with me over

its tessellated ground floor, through the Middle Chamber, and into its *sanctum sanctorum*, and there you will see the altar, and the fire, and the divinity itself?

"The great mistake of the present day is, that what we technically call the work of Masonry, is Masonry itself. This is a serious error, and should be at once corrected; for it is lowering the importance and dignity of Masonry, and degrading as well her character as her mission. Masonry is an organization of principles—of principles drawn from the highest sources of human reason and of divine revelation—of principles, in their nature, profoundly philosophical, and in their practical exhibition, of untold value to the human family. It is a system of symbolic mysteries, full of allegory wisely designed to attract, enlighten, and purify, to elevate fallen man and reinstate him in his primeval moral grandeur; it is social, moral, but not strictly religious—we have no waters of Jordan in which the soul, leprous with sin and defilement, can wash and be clean. We should encroach on the attributes of the Deity, we should touch with profane hands His altar, and offer strange fire thereon, did we assert such claims. But does Masonry assert too much when she claims to be a moral teacher and reformer? Her mission is a noble one, and not yet ended. Masonry, I most fully believe, has a higher destiny to accomplish, by aiding to evangelize the world. But however this may be, it has been said by an authority entitled to the highest credence (a committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maine), that she has a most important mission to perform in securing and perpetuating the harmony of our people and the union of these States. No one can tell the extent of this silent influence in preserving the integrity and stability of that union. What though there are apples of discord, which restless politicians throw broadcast throughout the land to stimulate sectional and political strife, and agitate the whole country as with convulsions! Freemasonry is abroad, and she has no 'Mason and Dixon's line.' In addition to this, I a few weeks ago received a fraternal communication from the Secretary of one of the most flourishing Lodges in Connecticut, the Lodge in which, about thirty-seven years ago, the light of Masonry first burst upon my astonished and delighted vision, in which the same sentiments are expressed as being those of the brethren of that enlightened State. To support and maintain our free institutions, to bind closer the bonds of our union, has with truth been said to be the sacred duty of every American Mason. May we not, therefore, reasonably hope much good in this regard from its peaceful and judicious teachings, its breathings forth of brotherly love in strict accordance with its ancient regulations and time-honored principles? In this hope, my brethren, let us cherish those principles, and endeavor to hand the institution down in all their ancient grandeur and integrity, unimpaired, to those who shall come after us.

"In this age of progress, there is very great danger of innovation.

The most ardent desire of the present day seems to be, to see and hear some new thing ; the anxious inquiry is, ' who will show us any good ? ' and already we begin to see new things in Masonry. Tidings from abroad show that innovations are to an alarming extent already begun. The Grand Lodge of England, at its quarterly communication in September, A. D. 1847, authorized the substitution of the words *free man* for *free born*, wherever the former expression occurs in her ritual, and the Grand Lodge of Ireland has followed her example and done the same as regards her ritual. This change was successfully made to meet the wishes and necessities of the Lodges in Antigua, Jamaica, and other British colonies, and under this *new* regulation it has been held, that an emancipated slave may be admitted into the Lodges under its jurisdiction. It would be difficult to imagine a more gross departure from the ancient landmarks of the Order. The Grand Lodge of Prussia excludes Jews from all Masonic intercourse with the Lodges under its jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge of England has, after a correspondence and remonstrance, ably conducted by the Earl of Zetland and the Grand Secretary, very properly resolved on that account to withdraw its representative from the Grand Lodge of Berlin.

"The course pursued by the Prussian Grand Lodge, is entirely unmasonic ; it cannot, like the English and Irish departure from the ancient rule, plead the principles of charity in its favor (a very dangerous plea when thus applied), and should be met by the most decided and unequivocal disapprobation and reprehension of the Fraternity throughout the world.

"The Grand Lodge of Virginia had added to the disqualifications the word '*Universalists*'—thus placing them in the same category as '*Atheists*,' but has, I learn, become convinced of her error and retraced her steps.

"The Grand Lodge of Tennessee has added to the qualification of candidates, a belief in a state of future rewards and punishments.

"The Grand Lodge of New York has declared that the initiation of Masons' sons at the age of eighteen years, is not a departure from ancient usage, and of course not an innovation ; and by the present constitutions of England, a Lewis (Louveteau), or son of a Mason, may be initiated at the age of eighteen ; while it is required by all other candidates, that they should have arrived at the mature age of twenty-one.

"The attempt has been made to introduce total abstinence from the use of ardent spirits as a test of admission.

"Votes in Lodges are frequently taken by yeas and nays, while the constitutions of 1767 expressly provide that 'the opinions or votes of the members, are always to be signified by each of the members holding up one of his hands.'

"In some Lodges, the old form of closing the Lodge, seems to be put aside for the *new* one of *adjourning* it, and some Lodges have gone

so far as to assemble on the day of the regular meeting, adjourn to another day and called this adjourned day a regular meeting and allow balloting for candidates and all other business of a regular meeting to be done on the adjourned day. This is an innovation from which much evil has resulted, by effecting the introduction of candidates in a hasty and inconsiderate manner, causing thereby difficulty and dissension in the Lodge, and bringing disgrace upon the institution.

"Parliamentary terms, such as *adjourn*, *previous question*, *protests*, *yeas* and *nays*, *committee of the whole*, etc., are unmasonic, were unknown to ancient Masonry, and ought to be entirely discarded.

"Again, some ultra liberal brethren, taking exception to (what they call) the uncharitable nature of a law which excludes a virtuous man from our fellowship, because he has been so unfortunate as to lose a leg or an arm, have assumed the right to change the ancient rule upon that subject, or to construe it away.

"Again, the term 'Grand East,' used by some of our Grand Lodges, is an anomaly in ancient Freemasonry; it is an invention of our French brethren during the last half century. The oldest documents emanating from Grand Lodges with which we are acquainted (says our very able and intelligent Brother Charles W. Moore, editor of the *Freemason's Magazine*), run thus: 'From the East of the Grand Lodge of —.' Adopt the French term for Grand Lodge, and it would run thus: From the East of the Grand East. To be consistent similar documents issuing from a subordinate Lodge should read, from the East of — East.

"My brethren, when once the spirit of innovation shall be sanctioned by Masons generally, the spirit of alteration and love of novelty will spread throughout the world; one body will vie with another in fancied improvements, 'and with the resistless fury of an avalanche, sweep over all opposition, until not one column of the stately edifice will be left to mark the spot where once stood the best and noblest of institutions.'

"Therefore, be careful that thou 'remove not the ancient landmarks which thy fathers have set.' 'Let us search and try our ways,' and if we have wandered abroad, or been led astray, let us at once 'return to the old paths.' The *universal language*, and the *universal laws* of Masonry, are landmarks, and the key to that universal language and those universal laws is love—love to God and love to man; this is what constitutes the solidity of Masonry, and its oneness, and the key thereto may be most readily found by an humble, diligent, and prayerful reading of the Holy Bible—that inestimable gift of God to man, which makes to us a revelation of His will. 'A reverence for the Supreme Being, the Grand Architect of nature, is the elemental life of Masonry, the primordial source of all its principles, the very spring and fountain of all its virtues.' 'Why is it that Masonry has remained unmoved amid the convulsions which have agitated the political world?' I answer, *all* other institutions of human origin have trusted themselves

to their own supposed excellence or inherent nature, being based alone on the wisdom of man. Not so with Masonry. Conscious of man's impotency, and of the mutability of all earthly things, Masonry is based upon revelation, and places her '*trust in God.*' That being the sure foundation, we may rest satisfied that we cannot improve the superstructure by any alterations that we can make in its form or features. Let us, therefore, my brethren, endeavor to adorn it, by adding to that faith which the Bible teaches, virtue, and to virtue, knowledge, and endeavor to put that knowledge to its proper and legitimate practical use, according to the ancient rules and regulations of the Craft, handed down to us from time immemorial. In this course of conduct rests the safety of the institution—the stability and integrity of our Order. One of the errors of modern times, is the practice (which too extensively prevails) of passing and raising candidates, before they have made suitable proficiency in the preceding degree or degrees. Again, too little regard is frequently paid to the *moral* character, and the intellectual powers of applicants for the mysteries of Masonry. In ancient times it was not so—then, not only virtue, but talents, were necessary, to enable a candidate to gain admission into a mystic temple. 'Nothing can be hoped from those whose moral character will not bear the test of a rigid scrutiny, or whose minds will not enable them to comprehend the mysteries, and appreciate the beauties and virtue of the excellent tenets of the institution.'

"This disregard is often the result of a desire to increase number of members in a Lodge, arising from the mistaken idea that such increase by members will add to the strength of the Lodge—when experience teaches us that the reverse is often the case.

"An eminent bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, addressing the clergy in his diocese in regard to the various matters touching its interests, said : 'Our numbers may indeed be added to, but the *numerical* is not always the *real* strength of a Church or an army.' Nor is it, I assure you, my brethren, a test of the real strength of a Lodge ; that must be found in the talent, the intelligence, the zeal, the industry, and the virtue of its members. Where all these combine, although the number may be small, the influence will be great, and the usefulness incalculable. Permit me, therefore, strongly to recommend to all Lodges within this jurisdiction to make virtue, talent, and intelligence the tests of admission to the mysteries of the Order. Where these prevail, zeal and industry will rarely be wanting.

"Our reverend Brother R. Green of Durham, England, in an address to St. Nicholas Lodge, Newcastle, in 1776, said :

"I would recommend that in our future choice of a member, we seriously consider whether his conduct and circumstances in life be such as not to have the least tendency to diminish the honor and credit of our honorable society. Nay, further, I would not only have every member to be such as he may negatively bring no discredit to the so-

ciety ; but positively that he may be such as may be some way useful and profitable thereto.'

"And Brother Blanchard Powers, in a prize essay delivered by him in 1842, says :

"Let us remember the caution which ought to be used in the admission of every candidate. Let it be known to the world that the character that would become a Mason must undergo the strictest scrutiny. He must be a man of strict morality. He must be no gambler, tipler, or profane swearer. He must be no railer against the religion of Christ, or the professors thereof. He must be a lover of decency and order. He must be strictly honest, industrious, and upright in all his conduct ; for such as delight in the practice of vice, are a disgrace to civil society, and are seldom reformed by the most excellent institution.'

"And our reverend Brother Dr. Oliver, of England, who has done more for Masonic literature than any other man of this or any other age, says : 'No Lodge ought to admit any one as a candidate for initiation, if he be not well known to be virtuous and good.'

"There is another evil which proceeds from a want of due reflection that, I fear is too common. I have witnessed in some Lodges a degree of levity in conferring the degrees, and especially the third, which should always be solemn as the grave, that to me was truly painful. There should be none in any degree.

"Preston, in his excellent *Illustrations of Masonry*, says :

"Ceremonies, simply considered, are little more than visionary delusions ; but their effects are sometimes important. When they impress awe and reverence on the mind, and attract attention to solemn rites by external forms, they are interesting objects.'

"That is the intention, and with due consideration and care, would be the effect of our ceremonies.

"The sphere of Masonry is as broad as humanity itself, and where the true interests of man are to be found, there should the Mason be seen in his round of duties ; and in no other manner can those interests be better supported than by promoting the cause of education. In England, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden, under the auspices of Masonry, schools have been established, which have furnished the lights of education and knowledge to thousands of poor but worthy children, who else might have suffered in indigence, ignorance, and want. One of the schools alone in Germany, in the space of five years, educated eleven hundred children in the elements of knowledge, and the principles of morality and virtue. In other countries, and especially in England, much has been done ; and I have the pleasure to say that many, and I believe most, of our Grand Lodges in these United States have taken decisive measures in regard to education ; and I am proud to add that Florida is not entirely behind the age in this matter. She has taken steps, the

tendency of which is to cause all the children of deceased worthy Master Masons to be educated at the expense of the Fraternity.

"One of the Lodges of the State, Madison Lodge, No. 11, has raised about \$5,000 for the establishment of a seminary of learning, which has commenced operating under favorable auspices, and it is hoped that it is on the full tide of successful experiment. To aid our brethren at Madison in this most laudable undertaking, this Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, appropriated \$1,500, one-half of which was then paid, the residue was to be paid, provided a majority of our subordinate Lodges should assent thereto. It remains to be ascertained whether that assent has been given. If the funds can be spared consistently with other engagements, and calls upon them for charitable purposes, I trust this balance will not be withheld.

"Another of our Lodges, Alachua Lodge, No. 26, at a late meeting appropriated \$1,000 for the establishment of an academy at Newnansville, and the brethren, individually, the same evening, subscribed \$2,500 more.

"The brethren of Centreville Lodge, No. 18, have also established a school in which the elementary principles and some of the higher branches of education are taught, which it affords me pleasure to be informed, is in a flourishing condition. Other Lodges (and especially Alligator) have had the subject of education under consideration, and I trust will exercise equal liberality. The subject of procuring Masonic libraries, too, is attracting the attention of our brethren, some of whom are procuring Masonic books, as they have the means to do so, and more are becoming subscribers to the valuable Masonic periodicals of the day—a practice which cannot be too highly commended. I have been much assisted in preparing this address by those interesting publications.

"Let schools and literary institutions be established and promoted (and especially for the education of the children of deceased worthy Master Masons left destitute by their parents). Let good Masonic libraries be annexed to them for the use of the scholars, members of the Fraternity, and *all others* who may be disposed to read our books, under such reasonable rules and regulations as should govern such libraries. Let the valuable Masonic periodicals now published in various parts of our country be well patronized, and their journals circulated, and much will have been (and continue to be) done 'to remove the veil which misrepresentation and prejudice have thrown over the eyes of our enemies.'

"Much of this prejudice doubtless results from a lack of information respecting the history, philosophy, and general principles of our Order; and it must be confessed that a most deplorable state of ignorance prevails, not only outside its precincts, but among a very large portion of its own members. When this ignorance shall be dissipated by the light of Masonic science and literature; when the world comes to

learn that Masonry exists in every country on this habitable globe where civilization prevails, and even in some (though perhaps in an imperfect state) in savage life; when it is further shown that this must have had a common origin, and all spring from one original source of light, whence it flamed out in the early ages of the world, like a system of concentric circles diverging from a common centre, diffusing light, and life, and harmony, and love, where all else would have been darkness, discord, hatred, and death—a different estimate will be placed by mankind upon our valued and venerated institution.

“To depart from evil and do good; uniformly to follow after the things that make for peace, and things whereby we may edify one another, and to promote, so far as possible, the general welfare of the community to which we belong, and mankind at large, is at once our characteristic profession, our duty, our interest, and our praise.’ And nothing can tend more strongly to consolidate, to strengthen, support, adorn, and beautify the Masonic edifice, and prevent erratic flights from the orbit of Freemasonry, than a strict adherence on the part of its votaries to, and a constant practice of, these sublime and important duties.

“One of the discordant notes, to which allusion has been made, and which tends to disturb the general harmony of the Order in this country, comes again from New York, and has arisen, I fear, more from a lack of this heaven-born principle of love than anything else. Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, a Lodge of German brethren working in the German language in the city of New York, has dissolved its connection with the Grand Lodge of that State, and received a charter from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. This, it has been suggested, may have been caused by a desire of the members of Pythagoras Lodge (on account of the language) to unite with a German Lodge. But whatever may have been the cause, the action of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg is so gross a violation of Masonic jurisdiction by that foreign Grand Lodge as, in my opinion, to call for the immediate action and animadversion of every Grand Lodge in these United States.

“The Grand Lodge of New York, which is more immediately interested in this matter than any other, has adopted, in regard to it, the following resolution, viz.:

“*Resolved*, That we affectionately remonstrate with our sister Grand Lodge of Hamburg against the course she has thought proper to pursue in trespassing within the borders of our jurisdiction; and that she be requested to re-call the charter she has issued to Pythagoras Lodge of this city.

“This is well as the first step. It is moderate and dignified, and breathes the proper spirit. What effect it may have remains to be seen. It is hoped that it may induce the Grand Lodge of Hamburg to retrace its steps. There is reason, however, to fear that it will not, as it acted deliberately, after repeated remonstrances addressed to it by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York. But if she does not yield to

this, I feel assured that she will to like remonstrances of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, all of whom ought to act promptly on the subject, and testify their disapprobation of such an invasion of the jurisdiction—such a trespass upon the rights of a sister Grand Lodge : else other like invasions may be expected to take place, and the utmost confusion and discord will most assuredly ere long prevail in an institution whose strength and support lie in her union, harmony, and peace.

“Another difficulty, and one of the most serious and alarming in its character, has occurred in Louisiana, where three of the Lodges, subordinate to the Grand Lodge of that State, have surrendered their charters to that Grand Lodge, and have taken charters from a body calling itself the Thirty-third Degree of the Scotch Rite, under which they are now working: Upon this subject, I received a communication in May last from Brother John Gedge, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of that State, to which I replied. A copy of this correspondence is now on file in the office of the Grand Secretary, which, for your information, will be appended to this address.

“The subject demands your most prompt, decided, and energetic action. This is the first time in the history of Masonry in this country I believe, in which any such body has undertaken to assume jurisdiction over the symbolic degrees. It is a thing unknown to, and unheard of, in ancient Masonry ; and if the innovation is not most promptly discarded, and the usurpation at once put down, we may bid ‘farewell, a long farewell,’ to all Symbolic Masonry. The erring Lodges are the ‘Polar Star, No. 1,’ ‘Amigos del Orden, No. 5,’ and ‘The Disciples of the Masonic Senate, No. 5.’ With the members of these Lodges, all Masonic intercourse should cease until they return to their duty and allegiance.

“The subject of non-affiliating Masons has lately occupied the earnest and anxious attention of many of the Grand Lodges of these United States, and it is one deserving of the most patient and candid consideration. That there should be any such, and especially that there should be so large a number as is known to exist, is very much to be deplored ; and while I would deprecate any harsh action in regard to them, but would by all means prefer a course that might tend to win them back to the fold again, I deem it a duty to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to it, and recommend that some efficient action be had. One of the first great duties which we teach, is, if a brother is supposed to be doing wrong, to admonish him of his errors, and so far as possible, aid a reformation. Should not that course be pursued in regard to those erring brethren ? It may be that there are many of this class to whom the idea that their course of life is unmasonic never occurred. It is a lamentable fact that there is a great lack of Masonic knowledge among a very large portion of the Fraternity. Let every brother, then, who has the light, endeavor to impart it to these

wanderers, and it may be a matter of serious consideration whether the collective wisdom of the Grand Lodge should not be imparted to them in a well prepared and suitable address.

"It is difficult to conceive how any intelligent Mason can reconcile it with his duty to withdraw from his Lodge and remain without membership in any Masonic body. The old charges expressly say that every brother ought to belong to a Lodge, and be subject to its by-laws and the general regulations, and these general regulations especially require this of every brother.

"The practice of Masons withdrawing their membership from the Lodge for the purpose of avoiding the payment of a small annual contribution (as is now sometimes done), was unknown except in certain cases, and would not have been permitted in the *olden* time,—the purer ages of Masonry. It has only prevailed within the last half century. It is contrary to the principles of the institution—a plain and palpable violation of Masonic law. The relations that Masons sustain to each other is that of brethren. Brother is a word of sacred import. Like music it has in it a charm to soothe the savage breast. There is something associated with the term which calls up the noblest and purest affections of the heart. It is a word often found in the writings of ancient patriarchs and prophets, and sanctified from its use by *Him* 'who spake as never man spake.' By voluntarily living out of the Lodge, a Mason forfeits all claim to this endearing appellation, all specific claims to the charities of the Order, all its privileges while living, and all right to Masonic burial when his spirit shall have been summoned hence by the Grand Master of the universe. These are considerations which do not seem to have their due weight with non-affiliating Masons. Indeed they do not seem generally to be understood either by them or the more zealous and adhering portion of our Order.

"Various modes of dealing with non-affiliating brethren have been suggested. Several Grand Lodges have assessed upon them an annual tax; but the propriety of this mode of proceeding is strongly doubted by many very intelligent brethren, and by some its legality is questioned. The mode which has the strongest support is to enforce the ancient regulation, which prohibits their visiting any Lodge more than once. Some of our Grand Lodges have so modified this ancient rule as to allow them to visit more than once on paying a certain annual tax, or a small fee at each visit. I prefer the latter mode, and would recommend it to the consideration of this Grand Lodge. It is believed that no Mason who is worthy of the name would object to paying such a tax or fee or that he would decline to visit the Lodge on account of its assessment. It there are any so *mean and penurious*, they can well be spared. Such drones in the hive, instead of being a benefit, are an incumbrance. 'All experience proves that in proportion as the members of any institution cease or neglect to discharge the active duties per-

taining to that relation, in the same proportion does the institution itself suffer. This is especially true of Freemasonry, whose prosperity depends not so much upon its numerical strength as upon the unwavering fidelity and the untiring industry of its members, and their strict adherence to the true spirit and principles of the Order.

“It is the habit of the world to judge of systems of religion, of morality, and philosophy, rather by the conduct of their professed disciples than by the intrinsic merits of the systems themselves’ (which too often are not very thoroughly examined). Masonry has suffered greatly from the faithlessness of its professed votaries, and I may here say, in the language of the Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in his report made in 1845, ‘I cannot pass this occasion by without calling your attention to the necessity of some action on the part of the Grand Lodge, directing the subordinates to enforce rigidly the discipline of the institution, by demanding of Masons “*strict moral conduct*,” as the terms of continuance among us. It is by this course alone that we can hope to preserve the purity and standing of the Craft, and make it what it was in its brightest age, when it was under the direction and control of the *wisest of men*, and his able and worthy coadjutors, a handmaid to virtue and religion. In many instances a *spurious* charity has permitted profane swearers, drunkards, and gamblers to remain members of Lodges, thereby causing not only the scorner, but the virtuous and the good to distrust the excellence of our Order, when we retain in the sacredness of fraternal relations persons who are *moral plague-spots* in society. This popular vice of using the name of God irreverently, is deserving of the heaviest censure. Profane swearing is a low, vulgar vice, in which the basest of mankind excel. The word of an honest man needs not an oath to sustain it, and he who invokes the vengeance of Heaven on the petty ills and disappointments of life, gives evidence of a narrow understanding, a wicked heart, and shows himself the most abject slave—a slave to his passions. Does the Bible forbid us to profane the sacred name of Deity? Masonry repeats the prohibition. Does it prohibit drunkenness—require men to be *sober*—to avoid the “wine when it is red,” and teach the final ruin of the drunkard? Masonry echoes back the command, “be temperate in all things.” This is a cardinal virtue—a law that Masons may not violate with impunity. A drunkard or a profane Mason is a solecism in language. No man can be guilty of those vices without (if he has ever been admitted into the Order), in so far ceasing to be a Mason. Cicero observes “that the reason why we are formed, pleased, and able to admire the beauty and regularity of the heavenly bodies, was to admonish us to imitate their constancy and order in the *nobler beauty* of a *worthy behavior*.”’

“Brethren, let us at all times, on all occasions, and under all circumstances, endeavor to adorn our walk and conversation, by such a behavior, and thus exhibit to the world that nobler beauty.

"It has been proposed that the Masonic Lodges throughout the United States, on the 4th day of November of the present year, respectively celebrate, in such manner as they shall deem most appropriate, the centennial anniversary of General George Washington's initiation into our Ancient Fraternity. Brethren, we may never be blessed with a second Washington, and if we should, he may not be a Mason. To perpetuate his name as a Mason as well as a patriot and a Christian—to keep his bright example ever in remembrance, and induce, so far as possible, an imitation of his virtues, I recommend that the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge do celebrate in some suitable manner that auspicious anniversary.

"A '*Circular Address*' of the Grand Lodge of the State of California, has just met my eye, in which they appeal to the M. W. G. Masters, Wardens, and Brothers of the Grand Lodges of the United States and Europe, and to the W. Masters, Officers, and brethren of the Subordinate Lodges under their respective jurisdictions,' for assistance. They say that they have raised and paid in 1849 and '50, to relieve sick and destitute emigrants from every State in the Union, and every part of Europe, over thirty-two thousand dollars, and are now in arrears fourteen thousand dollars, which they invoke our aid to enable them to pay. Their memorial will be before you, and I take the liberty to say, that their appeal is one which cannot and ought not to be disregarded or passed lightly by.

"A circular has also been issued by Union Lodge, located at Panama, in the Republic of New Grenada, in South America. The desire of those brethren is, to make that city a Masonic Missionary Station. The undertaking (says the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and I accord with him) is a laudable one, and will command the favorable notice of the whole Masonic family. The vouchers whose names are attached (he says) are satisfactory, and if the views of the circular are carried out, great good would result.

"The Isthmus of Panama is now the highway for men of all nations. Large numbers of these belong to our Fraternity, and are frequently in circumstances to need aid. Through much difficulty, the brethren have established a Lodge there, which, if munificently sustained by the Fraternity throughout the world, will stand to all future generations as a great moral lighthouse between the two oceans.'

"From its position, this Lodge could with propriety become the almoner for the distribution of the charities of individuals not of our Fraternity, and by directing the attention of the public to the subject, it is believed that ample means may be obtained for the relief of all persons there whose necessities may require it. The members of our Order will not, I am sure, be behind others in this great work.

"The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia also appeals to us in the following language, viz. :

“ ‘Whereas, This Masonic jurisdiction, although situated at the seat of government, is small, and unable to erect a suitable building for Masonic purposes, for which a building here is desirable to accommodate sojourning brethren constantly assembling here from all parts of this great nation : Therefore,

“ ‘Resolved, That the several Grand Lodges in the United States in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, be fraternally requested to invite the Masonic Brotherhood to unite in a subscription for the purpose of erecting in the city of Washington a central Masonic Temple, to be dedicated to the memory of our illustrious brother, George Washington, to be owned by the Masonic Fraternity of the United States of America, and to be in charge of the Freemasons of the District of Columbia, under such regulations as Trustees, to be appointed by this Grand Lodge, shall prescribe : and that they be requested to forward any contributions that may be received, to B. B. French, the M. W. Grand Master of this District.’

“Permit me, brethren, to suggest that the centennial anniversary of the initiation of Washington will afford the respective Lodges a fair opportunity for this subscription, if such contributions shall be deemed advisable. There may, and probably will be, some difference of opinion amongst the brethren, as to the propriety and expediency of uniting in such an undertaking, and some who might otherwise be willing to do so, may consider themselves precluded from it by paramount calls upon them by their own Lodges, or from other quarters. The time to elapse before that anniversary, will afford ample opportunity for inquiry and reflection, and enable the members of the Craft to prepare for a judicious action in regard to the matter, and I commend it to their candid consideration. A small sum contributed by each member of the Fraternity throughout the United States, would be sufficient to raise a monument to the memory of our venerated Brother Washington at the capital of the nation, much more useful, and perhaps quite as enduring, as the costly structure that is now being erected there.

“A circumstance was lately brought to my notice which induced me to turn my attention to the *Masonic duty* of visiting the sick. This is a matter that demands the attention of every Lodge. It is a duty that cannot be neglected without a violation of the high obligations we owe to our Masonic brother, and it is still more important when that sick brother is a stranger. It was a wholesome rule among the Ancients of our Order, in all cases of severe illness in a brother's family, that a Master Mason should be present in the house, especially at night, to be always ready to give the necessary aid and assistance that the circumstances might require, and I am happy to find that an increased attention is now being paid in many quarters, to this good old rule : ‘In the solemn hours of affliction and distress, no individual can more appropriately, delicately, and confidentially perform those duties, than a warm-hearted, sympathizing brother of the mystic tie.’ Waiting upon and nightly watching the sick brethren of the Lodge, and in case of distress supplying the wants of the family of the sick or distressed brother, were amongst the ancient practices of the brethren of our Order, and should on no account be neglected in these later times.

"From information lately received, I am led to believe that the regulation which should govern processions is not well understood or always observed. No public procession can take place, nor can two or more Lodges assemble for this purpose, until a dispensation has been granted by the Grand Master. By a public procession is meant a general convention of Masons for the purpose of making a public appearance. Every installed Master of a Lodge is sufficiently empowered by the constitution and the universal practice of Masons in this country, without any other authority, to convene and govern his *own Lodge*, at the funeral of its own members, the meeting being limited to the members of the Lodge, and he being amenable to the Grand Lodge for any misconduct which it was in his power to prevent. The members of a Lodge, when convened, are always under the control of the Master or proper presiding officer. Masons, when assembled, should always be under such control, and the reason why the Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges, when suspending work for short periods, call off, instead of adjourning, is, because, when a Lodge is called from labor to refreshment, the brethren always remain under the control of an officer, whose duty it is to see that they do not convert the periods of relaxation into intemperance and excess. When the Lodge adjourns, they are not under the charge of any officer. Hence adjournments (which were entirely unknown to Ancient Masonry) are unmasonic, and of course improper.

"In balloting for candidates, unanimity is required. Brother Mackey, in the last October number of his *Miscellany*, expressed a different opinion, but has since, upon a more full examination of the question, become convinced that he was wrong, and has made the '*amende honorable*.' If, upon the first ballot, one blackball appear, the W. Master may order another ballot taken, in order to ascertain whether it may not have been put in by mistake. So, if two blackballs are cast, a second ballot may be ordered, on the declaration of a member that he had made a mistake in depositing his ballot. And it is sometimes allowed even a third time, on the suggestion of the friends of the candidate that a mistake may possibly have been committed. The third ballot, however, settles the question, without a right to motion for reconsideration, or to withdraw his petition. There is no such thing as reconsidering a ballot on the admission of a candidate. Upon this subject, I had occasion to give an opinion in vacation to Marion Lodge, No. 19, upon a matter of difficulty which was reported to this Grand Lodge at our last annual communication, and by a resolution of the Grand Lodge was referred to me. A copy of my communication to Marion Lodge is on file, which will also be appended to this address.

"A difference of opinion exists among very intelligent Masons as to Lodges under dispensation. My view of the matter is, that a dispensation is itself a setting aside of the law, and an exception to a general

principle ; it must, therefore, be construed *literally*—what is not granted in express terms is not granted at all. A Lodge under dispensation is simply the creature of the Grand Master. It cannot make by-laws—it cannot elect officers—it cannot elect members. Brethren made in a Lodge while under dispensation, have not the right to vote in said Lodge, until they are regularly admitted to membership therein ; and this can only be done after the Lodge has been *chartered* and *constituted* by the Grand Lodge. No new Lodge is acknowledged, nor can their officers be admitted into the Grand Lodge until this is done. In this, the editors of *The Masonic Miscellany*, and *The Masonic Magazine* agree. But the editor of the *Masonic Review* says :—‘ A Lodge under dispensation has all the powers of a chartered Lodge for a limited time, except that of electing officers and being represented in Grand Lodge by their own delegates. Brother Dermott, an accomplished Mason of the *last century*, says : ‘ Masons made under a dispensation, have a right to visit warranted (*constituted*) Lodges, while such dispensation is in force, but no longer, until they belong to some warranted Lodge themselves ;’ thus showing that they are not considered as belonging to any Lodge. He therefore, to a certain extent, sanctions the editors of the *Miscellany* and *Magazine*, whose views appear to me to be in accordance with sound principles, founded upon a true construction of the instrument.

“ Some difference of opinion also exists as to the effect of the decision of a subordinate Lodge expelling a brother. I understand that it deprives the expelled member of all the privileges of the Order, until his case has been acted upon by the Grand Lodge, to which it is the duty of such subordinate Lodge to report it. If he takes no appeal, the Grand Lodge will direct the sentence of expulsion to be published or not, as it shall deem proper. If he takes an appeal, the Grand Lodge, if it shall consider the sentence wrong, may restore the brother to the privileges of the Order, but not to membership in the Lodge from which he was expelled. The reason is, that the Grand Lodge has no right to do that which might, and most likely would, essentially disturb the peace and harmony of that Lodge.

“ Our committee on Foreign Correspondence made a very able report at our last Grand annual communication, embracing a number of very important matters requiring the action of the Grand Lodge, but which were not acted upon for want of time ; consequently no extended report will be presented by that committee at this communication, and it is due to that committee, to ourselves, and to the brethren abroad, that this report shall be acted upon, by this body, and I thus bring it to your notice for that purpose. It is very full, and renders it unnecessary for me to notice in this address several matters that might otherwise have required my attention. One matter recommended by them, I deem too important to pass by without especial notice, which is, their recommendation that a committee be appointed to collect facts

and incidents connected with the introduction and progress of Freemasonry in this State. This is a subject that should receive early attention ; it will become more and more difficult as time rolls on. I also accord with that committee on the importance of an interchange of representatives between this Grand Lodge and that of New York. The latter is the grand focus of Masonic light in America, a thing very greatly needed on this 'land's end.'

"I also take the liberty to recommend that provision be made to procure the printing of the proceedings of this communication so soon after its close as possible, in order that they may be distributed at an early day. Much benefit would result from this, to the subordinate Lodges, and to our foreign correspondents.

"I am inclined to think, too, that Grand Lodge certificates should be required of, or some additional test applied, to visitors from the State of New York to prevent our being imposed upon by persons coming from the clandestine body known to exist there, called 'The Phillips Grand Lodge.'

"My dear brethren, in conclusion (and I fear you will think I have already detained you too long, but this is most likely the last time that I shall ever address a Grand Lodge. Having passed my three score years, I am admonished to reflect that my work on earth may be nearly done), permit me to call your attention to the furniture of a Mason's Lodge. 'It presents many objects of great sublimity. What was it that constituted the glory of the Tabernacle in the wilderness ! It was the Sacred Roll containing the Law of God. What formed the glory of the Jewish Temple ? The Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms. What is the chief glory of a Christian Church ? The books of the Old and New Testaments. What is the glory of a Mason's Lodge ? The Bible and its attendant lights. This Book is the gift of God, and contains His sacred revelations for the eternal benefit of His creatures. It is a record of truth—a standard of holiness—a persuasive to virtue.' 'Every step in Masonry—every mystery of the Order, like the things hard to be understood in Scripture, are witnesses of Divine truth.' The precepts of the Order are drawn from the Holy Bible. Consider them, I beseech you, as things which ought to be remembered and reduced to practice, in your ordinary intercourse with society. Without this application of your moral teaching, Masonry will not only be useless, but worse than useless to you. The wise son of Sirach hath said, the knowledge of the commandments of the Lord is the doctrine of life, and they that do things to please Him shall receive the fruit of the tree of immortality. But remember—we are taught by that Holy Book which always lies open on our altar, that it were better not to have known the mind of the Lord, than after having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto us. I would that this moral teaching should produce in us an active principle, an enduring excellency. I

most ardently desire that it should have such an effect upon the life and conduct of every one that receives it, as will enable him, when his earthly pilgrimage shall be drawing to a close, to exclaim with the Apostle, 'I have fought the good fight, I have kept the faith, I have finished my course : Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of glory that fadeth not away.'

"THOMAS DOUGLAS."

NOTE.—I was much gratified to learn (since the foregoing was in press), that the two respectable Grand Lodges, that of the "Three Globes," and also the "Royal York of Friendship," have now come to a final conclusion in favor of admitting brethren of the Jewish faith to their Lodges. This is as it should be—it is in accordance with true Masonic principles, which I trust will ere long everywhere prevail.

T. D.

Documents Referred to in the Foregoing Address.

LOUISIANA GRAND LODGE.

"OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF THE G. L. OF LOUISIANA, }
"New Orleans, 1st March, 1851. }

"*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Florida.*

"MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER :—Permit me to submit for your consideration the following facts, with certain queries arising from them, which appear to me to involve principles, in the correct understanding of which the whole Fraternity is interested. The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana dates its origin from the year 1812, and has always been the head and governing power of the Symbolic Lodges of Free and Accepted Masonry in the State. Its present constitution contains the following provisions :

"'It is constituted as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and in that capacity recognizes nothing but pure ancient Freemasonry, consisting of the three Symbolic Degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and is forbidden to tolerate any distinctions derogatory to the character in which it is constituted.'

"'It shall have the exclusive right to constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State.'

"'Every regular Lodge of Symbolic Masonry in this State, must be held under the Grand Lodge, by charter or dispensation.'

"This constitution was ratified and approved by every existing Lodge in the State, and promulgated by the Grand Lodge as the Masonic law of its jurisdiction. Since then, three of its constituent Lodges have returned their charters to the Grand Lodge, and have re-organized, by warrants of constitution from a body in New Orleans, styling itself the *Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third degree of the Scottish Rite*. They demand of the Grand Lodge and her constituents, to recognize them as legal Lodges, and their members and inmates as lawful brothers, entitled to visit and communicate.

"The questions arising from these facts, to which I would most respectfully, solicit your answers, are :

"1. Can this Council of the Thirty-third degree of the Scottish Rite,

lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge?

"2. Will the fact that they are constituted as Lodges of the *Scottish Rite* make any difference?

"3. Are Lodges, so constituted, entitled to be recognized as legally constituted? Are the members of such Lodges, and those initiated therein, lawful brothers, and entitled to visit and communicate with the Grand Lodge and its constituent Lodges?

"Should you deem it expedient and advisable to afford me the benefit of your experience, and superior knowledge in solving the above questions, you will confer a favor that will give me a great pleasure to reciprocate upon any future occasion, when my humble opinion may be deemed useful. A reply, at your earliest possible convenience, will confer a still further obligation.

"In conclusion, permit me to offer you, Most Worshipful Sir and Brother, the assurance of my highest fraternal regard and consideration.

"JOHN GEDGE, *Grand Master*.

"P. S.—The enclosed circular letter has been addressed by me to all the Lodges under our jurisdiction."

"NEWNANSVILLE, May 7th, 1851.

"MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER :—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the first of March last, addressed to Tallahassee, and forwarded to me at Jacksonville, the place of my residence, where I received it just as I was about to start for the interior on my spring circuit, and a press of business has hitherto retarded my reply. This is the less to be regretted, as it has afforded me an opportunity to state the matter of difficulty that has occurred in your jurisdiction, to a number of our most intelligent and best informed brethren, amongst whom there appears to be no difference of opinion on the subject.

"The constitution of the Grand Lodge of your State (you inform me) contains the following provisions :

"'It is constituted as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and in that capacity recognizes nothing but pure Ancient Freemasonry, consisting of the three Symbolic Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and is forbidden to tolerate any distinctions derogatory to the character in which it is constituted.'

"'Every regular Lodge of Symbolic Masonry in this State (you say) must be held under the Grand Lodge by charter or dispensation.'

"This constitution (you further state) was ratified and approved by every Lodge in the State, and promulgated by the Grand Lodge as the Masonic law of its jurisdiction. Since then, three of its constituent Lodges have returned their charters to the Grand Lodge, and

have reorganized by warrants of constitution from a body in New Orleans, styling itself the 'Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third Degree of Scottish Rite.'

"They demand (it seems) of the Grand Lodge and her constituents to recognize them as legal Lodges, and their members and initiates as lawful brothers, entitled to visit and communicate.

"The questions arising from these facts to which you solicit my answers, are :

"1. Can this Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Scottish Rite lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State (Louisiana), within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge?

"2. Will the fact, that they are constituted as Lodges of the Scottish Rite make any difference?

"3. Are Lodges so constituted entitled to be recognized as legally constituted? Are the members of such Lodges and those initiated therein, lawful brothers, and entitled to visit and communicate with the Grand Lodge, and its constituent Lodges?

"To each and all of which questions, after due deliberation, and that solemn consideration which their importance demands, I unhesitatingly reply in the negative. An affirmative response to them would, according to my view of the matter, be utterly subversive of every principle of our ancient and honorable institution, and sanctioning a violation of fundamental principles, and the most solemn obligations, and tend to the total destruction of all subordination and all Masonic discipline, and all Symbolic Masonry. To preserve it in its purity, it must have the right and the power of self-control, and hitherto from time immemorial, it has possessed that right and exercised that power, without the interference of other bodies, and hence it has stood the test of scrutiny, of talent, and of time, an enduring, and I trust an imperishable monument, of the wisdom of its founders.

"Thus far I have considered this matter as though this self-styled 'Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third Degree of the Scottish Rite,' were legally constituted. It seems, however, that it is not so, but is on the contrary, itself 'clandestine.' For this I have the high authority of Brother A. G. Mackey, who in volume two, number three, of his able *Masonic Miscellany*, on page 155, says : "'The ancient and accepted," or as it is commonly called "Scottish Rite," is administered by two bodies in the United States, called "Supreme Councils of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third Degree," consisting of nine members each. The first, or elder body, has control over the southern and southwestern jurisdiction of the United States and Mexico. Its central seat or Grand East, is in the city of Charleston, South Carolina. The second has control over the northern and northwestern jurisdiction of the United States and the Canadas. Its central seat is at the city of New York.' On page 156, he further says : 'There is another body existing at New

Orleans, calling itself a Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, but its authority is not recognized by either of the Councils above named, which, on the contrary, have often pronounced it to be *spurious and clandestine*.' In fact (he says), by the constitutions of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, only two Supreme Councils can legally exist in the United States, and they have, by uninterrupted succession, ever since their first organization, been established at Charleston and New York. (*Ibid.*) These regular bodies, under whom alone is placed the control of the Scottish Rite in this country, have studiously abstained from any interference with the rights of the Grand Lodge. This action of the '*soi-disant*' Supreme Grand Council of New Orleans (he says) will no doubt call for the interference and denunciation of the regular administrators of the Ancient and Supreme Rite, as well as the reprehension of the Grand Lodges of York Masonry throughout the United States. (*Ibid.*, 160.) In this, I fully accord with Brother Mackey. It is much to be regretted, that persons calling themselves Masons, can so far lose sight of their more solemn obligations, and thus deliberately violate them; but when they do so, fidelity to our time-honored and venerable institution imperiously requires that they should unhesitatingly be denounced by all the faithful throughout the whole length and breadth of our land with one united voice.

"Trusting that these misguided brethren will reconsider the steps they have taken, abandon them, come back again to the old paths, and re-set the ancient landmarks, which they have so unlawfully removed,

"I am, sir, most truly and fraternally yours, &c.,

"THOMAS DOUGLAS.

"JOHN GEDGE, Esq.,

M. W. G. Master G. L. Louisiana, New Orleans, La."

MARION LODGE, NO. 19.

"JACKSONVILLE, February 24th, 1851.

"*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Marion Lodge, No. 19, Florida.*

"BRETHREN :—The following statement was handed to me during the last session of the Grand Lodge, by Brother Scott, of your Lodge, with a request that I would lay it before the Grand Lodge, and ask its decision upon it. I did so, but owing to a press of business, there was not time to examine and discuss the questions it presents, with that deliberation which their importance was deemed to deserve, and besides many of the authorities were not at hand, and many of the members were disinclined to act upon the matter without a reference to them, and not being willing to continue it to the next session, resolved to refer it to me for examination and decision, and perhaps I owe you an

apology for not having sooner discharged this duty, which is, that I was in the same predicament in regard to authorities, and, moreover, was at the time in bad health, and much pressed by official duties. The statement alluded to, is as follows, viz. :

“ ‘H. W. Dickson was duly elected and initiated into the first degree of Masonry. He afterwards applied for the second degree, and another applicant and himself were both balloted for jointly, but a negative vote appearing, the ballot was again taken for Brother Bruton, who was elected, and the case of Dickson laid over until the next meeting, when he was again balloted for and declared elected. After the result was declared, a communication was received from an absent brother, who stated that he had an objection to Mr. Dickson’s being passed, and if he were present, would put in a negative vote against him. After some debate on the communication, a motion was made to reconsider the vote which had elected Brother Dickson to the second degree, which resulted in his rejection. A vote was also taken to give him (Mr. Dickson) a certificate of good standing as an Entered Apprentice, that he might go elsewhere and get the other degrees.’

“ In the 8th number, volume 1, of the *Masonic Miscellany*, pages 234 to 238, the right of Entered Apprentices to advancement, is fully discussed ; and it is there held that he cannot claim advancement as a right, although he differs from the profane, in that he has a right to apply for advancement ; but that it requires the same unanimity to admit to the second, as to the first degree. And in the 12th number the subject is again noticed, the doctrine of the 8th referred to and sustained ; and it is said that ‘after the balloting, or initiation, or passing, or even while raising, at any point of time before the signing of the by-laws, a single individual member of a Lodge, who is himself in good standing, and not in arrears for his annual or quarterly dues, who may learn subsequent to the balloting, of any fact, which if known at the time of the balloting, would have justified him in casting a negative vote, is in duty bound to object to the advancement of the candidate, or new brother, and would be grievously derelict to the institution, and to his own rights if he did not. He is not bound to explain, or give any reason ; for it may be a family secret, a government secret, or an individual secret. In either case he is not to be compelled, nor is he bound to express it to any one. He must answer for it on his Masonic responsibilities, to his conscience and his God, that his reason is sufficient. And one single objector, in such a case, is all that is requisite, and his objection is good, even though the candidate has received part of the degrees only, or even when he has been finished on the last degree, but has not signed the by-laws. But it cannot undo what has been done. The candidate must stop there, and stand at that point until the objection is removed or withdrawn, and is bound to secrecy by his first entering engagements.’

“ The constitution of our Grand Lodge requires the same unanimity.

Article eighth, Section eighth, declares 'That the vote to advance a brother to any degree of Masonry, should be as unanimous as the vote which admits him as a member.' Brother Mackey, in his *Lexicon*, page 326, under the head of '*unanimity*,' says, 'Unanimity in the choice of candidates, is considered so essential to the welfare of the Fraternity, that the old regulations of the Grand Lodge of England have expressly provided for its preservation,' and cites the article without comment, of course approving it. And at page 32, under the word '*balloting*,' he says : 'Unanimity of choice in this case (balloting for candidates), is always demanded ; one blackball alone, if accompanied by good reasons (of the sufficiency of which the Lodge will judge), being sufficient to reject a candidate, and two having this effect without assigning any reason whatever. This is an inherent privilege, not subject to dispensation or interference by the Grand Lodge, because, as the ancient constitutions say, the particular Lodges are the best judges of it.' The case cited from the *Masonic Miscellany*, is, I think, in accordance with general principles, and sustained by abundant authority. It seems to be one where the objector has, at the balloting, put in a white ball for the candidate, but applies with equal, if not greater force, where the objecting brother was absent (as in the case under consideration) and had no opportunity to ballot. That it cannot *undo* what has been done, seems to apply to the reconsideration of the vote electing Brother Dickson to the second degree, and shows it to have been irregular ; and in the 5th volume, of the *Masonic Magazine*, page 167, in an article on the subject of '*balloting*,' it is expressly declared that 'No motion can be made to reconsider *after the ballot was declared*.' The result of the vote to give him (Mr. D.) a certificate of good standing as an Entered Apprentice, is not stated.

"There are many things which might be good cause of objection on behalf of a member of a Lodge in good standing, to the admission of a brother as a member of his particular Lodge, which would not perhaps affect his general standing as a Mason. Any thing that would tend to disturb that general harmony and good feeling which ought always to subsist between one member and all the other members of every Lodge, would be sufficient, although it would not be such as might tend to disturb the harmony of another Lodge ; but notwithstanding this legal right exists, I think that where an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft applies for advancement, and any brother has an objection, which might be removed by explanation if it be a trivial matter, the objecting brother should seek or at least afford all proper means to have the difficulty obviated. A mutual explanation often removes difficulties between individuals who are not Masons, and *à fortiori* should, it seems to me, do so amongst brethren of the great Masonic family in all cases susceptible of explanation. In the case before us, I have some doubt whether it would have been proper to have given such a certificate as that mentioned until the objecting brother had an

opportunity to be fully heard, but as the result of the vote is not stated, I do not feel myself called upon to pronounce a definite opinion upon that question, and am unable to find any case precisely in point. The seventh Section of the eighth Article of the Constitution of our Grand Lodge, provides 'That a candidate who has been once rejected, shall not be knowingly received by any other Lodge under this jurisdiction, without the consent of the Lodge which rejected him.' And I take it for granted, that no Lodge would give such consent in such a case, where the objecting brother had made himself known, without first hearing from such brother, or at least giving him an opportunity to be heard. At the time this vote was taken, Brother Dickson appeared, by the proceedings of the Lodge, to have been rejected. As, however, that balloting was not sanctioned by Masonic usage, it may, I think, be properly expunged, so that Brother Dickson may stand at the point where he stood when the communication of the absent brother was received, until the objection shall be removed or withdrawn. And here it may be proper for me to observe, that Brother Mackey concludes the article in the 8th number, volume 1 of his *Masonic Miscellany*, with these words, viz.: 'But let it be remembered that the Lodge which refuses to pass an Entered Apprentice on account of any objection to his moral character, or doubts of his worthiness, is bound to give him the advantage of a trial, and at once to expel him if he is guilty, or, if innocent, to advance him, when otherwise qualified.' If the objection does not affect his moral character, or raise doubts as to his worthiness, I can see no objection to giving the certificate proposed, or the consent provided in the seventh Article of the eighth Section of the Constitution.

"Thus, brethren, I have endeavored to give you my views on the matters submitted, as clearly as I could, although perhaps not so concisely as I might, and hope they will be satisfactory, and tend to the peace and harmony of your Lodge, the success and prosperity of which no one more ardently desires than

"With fraternal affection and regard, your brother,

"THOMAS DOUGLAS."

NOTE BY THE COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.—"All the matters contained in the foregoing address were so highly approved by the Grand Lodge, that for the purpose of giving it a wider circulation, it ordered one hundred more copies of the journals containing it, than usual, and two hundred extra copies of the address, separate from the journals, to be printed for distribution.

"JOHN P. DUVAL,
"THOMAS BROWN,
"THOMAS HAYWARD, } Committee."

Brother Mackey exemplified the work and delivered the lecture in the first degree of Masonry.

The Craft were then called to refreshment until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, January 13, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Returns and Credentials made the following report:

"The committee on Returns and Credentials beg leave to report that they have examined and found correct the following returns, viz. : Jackson Lodge, No. 1 ; Washington Lodge, No. 2 ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3 ; Hiram Lodge, No. 5 ; Madison Lodge, No. 11 ; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16 ; Euchecanna Lodge, No. 17 ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18 ; Marion Lodge, No. 19 ; Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, for 1849-50, and 51 ; Gee Lodge, No. 21 ; Newport Lodge, No. 23 ; Naval Lodge, No. 24 ; and Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25. The return from Alachua Lodge, No. 26, has been returned to the representative of that Lodge for correction. The return from Columbia Lodge, U. D., is incorrect in form, and also, so far as your committee can ascertain, in amount of dues to Grand Lodge. Your committee recommend that said return be returned to that Lodge for correction, but as it is presumable that the Lodge acted in ignorance of the proper form, as well as the requirements of the Grand Lodge, as to the amount of dues, your committee recommend that the representative and officers of that Lodge be allowed to take their seats in the Grand Lodge as soon as a charter is issued. Your committee notice a practice prevalent in one of the Lodges, viz., Naval Lodge, No. 24, of allowing the officers to resign their stations before the expiration of the period for which they were elected or appointed. Your committee deem this so wide a departure from the usages of Masonry as only to require the attention of the brethren to be called to it to insure its correction. In Hillsborough Lodge, your committee notice that two brethren were passed on one day and raised the next, without the cases being declared cases of emergency. This haste is unbecoming, and has a tendency to prevent the candidate from becoming sufficiently acquainted with one degree before he takes the other, and your committee deem that such conduct should meet the censure of the Grand Lodge.

"The following are the names of the officers, representatives, and proxies :

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—W. M., S. S. Knight ; S. W., R. S. Hayward ; J. W., W. H. Bayley.

"From Washington Lodge, No. 2—W. M. J. M. W. Davidson ; S. W., S. B. Stephens, proxy ; J. W., S. B. Stephens, proxy ; S. B. Stephens, Representative.

"Harmony Lodge, No. 3—W. M., B. G. Alderman ; B. G. Alderman, Representative.

"Hiram Lodge—W. M., S. and J. W., W. S. Dilworth, proxy and Representative.

"Madison Lodge, No. 11—W. M., W. A. Brinson ; S. W., F. I. Wheaton, proxy ; J. W., D. H. Mays ; B. C. Pope, Representative.

"Santa Rosa, No. 16—W. M., W. Anderson, proxy.

"Euchecanna Lodge, No. 17—D. G. McLean, Representative and S. W.

"Centreville Lodge, No. 18—W. M., C. C. Fletcher ; W. L. Thompson, Representative.

"Marion Lodge, No. 19—W. M., Thomas Douglas, proxy.

"Solomon's Lodge, No. 20—W. D. Harlow, proxy for W. M., and S. Representative.

"Gee Lodge, No. 20—W. M., Samuel Boardman ; S. Boardman, proxy for S. and J. W., and Representative.

"Newport Lodge, No. 23—J. G. Park, proxy for W. M., S. W., and Representative.

"Naval Lodge, No. 24—W. M., Walker Anderson, proxy.

"Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25—R. A. Shine, Representative.

"Alachua Lodge, No. 26—J. G. Dell, Representative, and proxy for W. M., S. and J. W.

"Columbia Lodge, U. D.—A. A. Stewart, Representative.

"Dade Lodge, No. 14—Jos. B. Lancaster, Representative and proxy for W. M. All which is respectfully submitted.

"SAMUEL BOARDMAN, } Committee."
"B. C. POPE,

Which was concurred in.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made a report, which was read, discussed, and recommitted to said committee with instructions.

On motion, the Grand Secretary was ordered to issue a charter to Columbia Lodge, working under dispensation, by the style of Columbia Lodge, No. 29.

The Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Accounts—Brothers BOARDMAN, STEPHENS, and MAYS.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers DUVAL, McLEAN, and HARLOW.

On Ways and Means—Brothers POPE, BEMBRY, STEWART, DUVAL, and FLETCHER.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers BROWN, DUVAL, TAYLOR, THOS. HAYWARD, and FORWARD.

On Visitors—Brothers HAYWARD, STEVENS, and WHEATON.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers ANDERSON and FLETCHER.

On Education—Brothers DILWORTH, HARLOW, and BOARDMAN.

The Grand Master, Chairman of the Library Committee, made the following report :

"The Library Committee, who were, at the last annual communication, charged with the duty of purchasing books, to form the nucleus of a library for the use of the Grand Lodge and its subordinate Lodges,

beg leave to report that after having sought and, as they believe, obtained the best information and advice in relation to the matter, they proceeded to purchase about seventy volumes, which embrace, so far as they have been able to ascertain, nearly all the Masonic literature in the English language, a list of which is hereunto annexed, showing their respective prices, from which it appears that they cost the sum of \$230 88, allowing \$5 for duties returned.

"There were forty lamb-skin aprons in a box of the books that was sent to Jacksonville, which were intended for the Lodge at that place; but the box was forwarded on here unopened, and as the Grand Lodge had no aprons, and these came very low (only twenty-five cents each), your committee deemed it best to retain them for its use. The whole cost of the books and aprons is \$240 88. The amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge was \$200, to which the Grand R. A. Chapter added \$50, which, together with \$195 of the sum appropriated by the Grand Lodge, was placed in the hands of the chairman of your committee, from which deduct \$240 88 and there remains in his hands the sum of \$4 88. \$5 of the sum appropriated by the Grand Lodge still remains in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

"Your committee have ordered several works that have not been received, amongst which are *Laurie's History of Freemasonry*, *Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry*, by Dr. Oliver, London, being 98 Masonic sermons, *The Origin of the Royal Arch Degree*. Besides which your committee have caused a subscription to be made for the continuing numbers of the *London Freemason's Quarterly Magazine and Review*, which will be sent direct to our Grand Secretary here, but for the current year will be charged to the chairman of your committee. The amount of this subscription, it is supposed, will be about \$6. There are also some small items of expense incurred in getting the books to this city, with an account of which your committee are not yet furnished.

"Your committee have the pleasure of informing the Grand Lodge that Brother Jacob Ernst, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has added to our library, as a present to the Grand Lodge, the *Craftsman*, and *Templar's Text-Book*, both valuable works, for which the acknowledgments of this body are due. A letter from Brother Ernst accompanied the donation, which your committee regret to say has been mislaid. Your committee were invested with power to make rules for the proper use of the books of the library, but as yet are not prepared to report on the subject.

"All which is respectfully submitted,

"THOS. DOUGLAS, *Chairman*."

The Grand Lodge of Florida,
JAN. 12, 1852.

To THOS. DOUGLAS, Dr.

For the Constitutions of 1723,.....	\$11 00
For Noothouks' do., Edition 1784,.....	12 00
For Masonic Review, bound vols. 1 to 5, inclusive,.....	10 00
For do. do. vol. 6, unbound,.....	1 00
For Antiquities of Freemasonry,.....	3 50
For History of Initiation,.....	3 50
For Signs and Symbols,.....	3 00
For Symbol of Glory,.....	3 25
For Golden Remains, vols. 1 to 5, inclusive,.....	18 75
For True Masonic Guide,.....	1 75
For Masonic Chart,.....	1 25
For Preston's Illustrations,.....	4 50
For Stewart's Manual,.....	1 00
For Ashe's Manual,.....	2 50
For Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry,.....	2 50
For Stray Leaves from a Freemason's Note Book,.....	2 25
For New Masonic Trestle-Board,.....	1 25
For Landmarks of Masonry,.....	5 50
For Laws Grand R. A. Chapter of Scotland,.....	1 50
For Royal Arch Regulations,.....	75
For Mirror of Johannite Masons,.....	1 75
For Star in the East,.....	1 75
For History of Freemasonry from 1829 to 1841,.....	1 50
For Book of the Lodge,.....	1 50
For Insignia of the Royal Arch,.....	75
For Apology for Freemasonry,.....	35
For The Scism,.....	1 00
For Freemasonry a Type of Christianity,.....	50
For Freemason's Magazine, bound, 10 vols.,.....	50 00
For Expenses on the same,.....	5 00
For one vol. of the same, unbound,.....	2 00
For London Freemason's Quarterly Review, 18 vols.,.....	67 00
For Expenses on the same from Savannah,.....	2 50
For Scott's Analogy, 2 vols.,.....	4 00
Add for contingent expenses,.....	2 38
For 40 Lamb Skin Aprons,.....	10 00
	<hr/> 241 88

CONTRA.

Cr.

By deduction on duties,.....	\$ 5 00
By cash of Grand Lodge,.....	195 00
By Grand R. A. Chapter,.....	50 00
	<hr/> \$250 00
Balance in hands of chairman of committee,.....	8 12
Dr. For the 1st and 2d vols. of the Masonic Miscellany, bound, brought by Brother Mackey, at \$2 per copy,.....	4 00
	<hr/> \$4 12

Which was read, received, and concurred in.

Brother Stephens offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to pay over to the Secretary of Washington Lodge, No. 2, one thousand dollars, to aid said Lodge in the contemplated erection of a new Masonic Hall upon such terms as may be deemed most advisable for the interests of this Grand Lodge."

Which was read and referred to a select committee consisting of Brothers Pope, Boardman, Park, and McLean.

On motion, the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted last year and not acted on, was referred to the committee on Unfinished Business.

The Craft were called to refreshment until half-past six, P. M.

TUESDAY, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

Brother A. G. Mackey proceeded to exemplify the work in the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft's degrees.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment until to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 14th, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as yesterday.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers, when the Grand Master declared Brother SAMUEL B. STEPHENS to be duly elected as Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, as Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, as Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. B. C. POPE, as Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

W. F. I. WHEATON, as Grand Senior Deacon.

W. W. A. BRINSON, as Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters DUVAL and CALL, with a due representation, members and visitors.

Brother Thomas Hayward entered, and was invited to take the East.

On motion the Grand Lodge resumed the election, when the following brethren were declared duly elected, viz. :

R. W. CHARLES A. M. MITCHELL, Deputy Grand Master.
 R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. FRANCIS I. WHEATON, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, unanimously elected Grand Secretary.
 R. Rev. W. D. HARLOW, Grand Chaplain.

THURSDAY, January 15th, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Grand Master.
 R. W. JOE B. LANCASTER, as Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. F. I. WHEATON, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
 W. W. L. THOMPSON, as Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. C. C. FLETCHER, as Grand Junior Deacon.
 Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters JOE B. LANCASTER, THOS. BROWN, JOHN P. DUVAL, Past Grand Secretary A. G. MACKAY, Grand Lodge of South Carolina, with a due representation, members and visitors.

After the transaction of some business, a procession was formed, and the Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, for the purpose of attending the public installation of officers.

The procession marched to the Methodist church, when the Grand Officers were publicly installed.

Brother A. G. Mackey delivered an eloquent and chaste address, and the procession returned to the lodge-room and was then called to refreshment until to-morrow.

THURSDAY, January 15.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Grand Master.
 R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. F. I. WHEATON, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
 W. S. S. SIBLEY, as Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. J. H. VERDIER, as Grand Junior Deacon.
 Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters DUVAL, DOUGLAS, and CALL, with a due representation, members and visitors, and among the latter, R. W. Bro. A. G. MACKAY.

Brother Thomas Hayward was appointed in the place of Brother Douglas, to procure a Collar and Jewel for the Reverend Grand Chaplain.

Brother Boardman offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to our Right Worshipful Brother A. G. Mackey, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, for his eloquent and able address before this Grand Lodge, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of his address for publication in the proceedings of this Grand annual communication.

Which was read and adopted.

Brother Duval offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a Special Committee be appointed to be called the Library Committee, to consist of three.

Which was read, and the resolution of the last year, relating to the Library Committee, was revived, and a Special Committee, consisting of Brothers Douglas, Shine, and Taylor, appointed.

Past Grand Master Douglas offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the sum of two hundred dollars be appropriated for the purchase of books for the Masonic Library of this Grand Lodge, and that the sum of fifty dollars appropriated by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter at its convocation in 1851, and fifty dollars at its convocation in 1852, be accepted on the condition upon which they were voluntarily made, viz., that the officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and the subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction shall have the same right to the use of the books as the officers of the Grand and the subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction shall have, and that a copy of this resolution be furnished to the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Which was received, read, and laid on the table.

Brother Mackey exemplified the work in the third degree of Masonry.

Brother Boardman offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a select committee of three be appointed to revise the constitution of this Grand Lodge, and that they be required to present said revised constitution at the next regular communication.

Which was read and adopted, and Brothers Thomas Hayward, Thomas Brown, and J. B. Taylor appointed said committee.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, January 16th, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as yesterday.

Brother Douglas offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, The lamb-skin or white leather apron is the emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Mason, and consequently the only apron known to ancient Freemasonry. Therefore,

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby, strongly recommended to all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to procure such aprons for the use of the members of their respective Lodges so soon as they can conveniently do so.

Which were read and adopted.

Brother Douglas offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, Several of the Grand Lodges in the United States have directed the Lodges under their respective jurisdictions to celebrate, on the 4th day of November next, the centennial anniversary of the initiation of our most worthy and much loved brother General George Washington, into the mysteries of our Order. And whereas, we may never have a second Washington, and if we should, he may not be a Mason. Therefore, for the purpose of testifying our affection for so much departed worth, and keeping his name and his virtues in perpetual remembrance, as an incentive to the emulation and imitation of them,

Resolved, That the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby, directed in some suitable and appropriate manner to celebrate that centennial anniversary on that day.

Which were read and unanimously adopted.

Brother Douglas offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, The Grand Lodge of the State of California has addressed circulars "to the Most Worshipful Grand Masters, Wardens, and Brothers of the Grand Lodges of the United States and Europe, and to the Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the subordinate Lodges under their respective jurisdictions," for assistance : And whereas, they say that they raised and paid in 1849 and 1850, to relieve sick and destitute emigrants from every State in the Union and every part of Europe, over thirty-two thousand dollars, and are now in arrears fourteen thousand dollars, which they invoke our aid to enable them to pay : Therefore,

Resolved, That the sum of ——— be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for that purpose, and the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge do pay to the Grand Secretary thereof that sum, and that it shall be his duty to procure a draft for the same amount on New York, payable to the order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California, and remit the same to him without delay.

Which was read, and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

R. W. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER, District Deputy Grand Master, Southern District.

R. W. GAD HUMPHRIES, District Deputy Grand Master, Eastern District.

R. W. J. M. W. DAVIDSON, District Deputy Grand Master, Middle District.

R. W. WM. MORRELL, District Deputy Grand Master, Western District.

R. W. D. H. MAYS, Grand Orator.

R. W. JEAN H. VERDIER, Grand Lecturer.

W. J. S. SAMMIS, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. CHAS. RUSSELL, Grand Junior Deacon.

W. S. S. KNIGHT, Grand Marshal.

W. KENNETH BEMBRY, Grand Pursuivant.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

Brother Douglas offered the following :

Resolved, That two hundred dollars be presented to R. W. Bro. A. G. Mackey, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, for his able exposition of the work and lectures of the Symbolic Degrees of Masonry, and that a committee of three members be appointed, to act with a similar committee appointed by the Grand Chapter of this State, to wait upon Brother Mackey and present said sum, together with the ardent and sincere thanks of this Grand Lodge for his efficient labors.

Which was unanimously adopted, and Brothers Duval, Pope, and Shine were appointed said committee.

Brother Pope, chairman on the committee on Ways and Means, made the following report :

"The committee on Ways and Means beg leave to make the following report upon the several matters submitted to their consideration, to wit :

"With reference to the resolution introduced by P. G. M. Douglas, asking an appropriation to be made by this Grand Lodge for the relief of our sister Lodges in California, together with the circular accompanying said resolution, we have to say that their circular, issued by the Grand Lodge of California, appeals to the subordinate Lodges throughout the United States and Europe for contributions from five to ten dollars, each, or more, as their circumstances shall warrant ; and your committee are of the opinion that their appeal is properly directed. We would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution, in lieu of the resolution offered by the R. W. P. G. M. Douglas, and referred to your committee, to wit :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge do cordially and earnestly recommend to the several Subordinate Lodges within this jurisdiction to forward to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, as soon as they shall receive a copy of the proceedings of the present Grand annual communication, the sum of five or ten dollars each, to be by him invested in a draft on New York, payable to the order of the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of California, and remit the same without delay.

"Your committee are of opinion that the resolution introduced by R. W. P. G. M. Douglas, referred to them, asking an appropriation of two hundred dollars for the purchase of a library, be amended by inserting fifty dollars, in lieu of two hundred dollars, and that the same be adopted.

"Your committee have also inquired into the state of the finances of this Grand Lodge, and are of opinion that the appropriations and expenses of the present Grand annual communication will leave but a small balance in the treasury, a portion of which balance has been loaned to Washington Lodge, No. 2, leaving unappropriated not more than a sufficiency to meet the contingencies which may arise during the ensuing vacation of this Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted ; and your committee ask to be discharged from further duty.

"B. C. POPE, *Chairman.*"

Which was read and concurred in.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until seven o'clock this evening.

FRIDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

Past Grand Master Douglas, chairman of the Library Committee, reported the following rules for the regulation of the Library :

RULES FOR THE PROPER USE OF THE BOOKS OF THE LIBRARY.

1. The Books of the Library shall be under the charge and care of the Grand Secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a register of every book taken out.

2. The Library shall be kept in the Lodge Room, in a case to be provided for that purpose.

3. The officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and the officers and members of the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and the officers and members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and of the Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction, shall have an equal right to the use of the books of the Library.

4. No brother or companion shall be permitted to take more than two books out of the Library at the same time.

5. No brother or companion shall be permitted to take any book out of the Library, until he shall have deposited with the Grand Secretary the cost of such book, with twenty-five per cent. thereon and his receipt therefor, containing a stipulation to return the same at the next Grand annual communication.

6. Should any brother or companion keep any book out of the Library after the permit above prescribed, the money so deposited shall be forfeited, and the Grand Secretary shall be authorized to use the same to purchase other books of the same kind.

7. Should any book be returned within said time by any brother or companion soiled or otherwise injured, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to assess such sum for such damage as he may deem reasonable and just, and deduct the amount from the sum so deposited, and return the residue ; should the book so returned be uninjured, the whole amount of the deposit shall be returned to the brother or companion so returning the same.

8. No brother or companion shall take out a single volume of a work containing two volumes, without depositing the price of both volumes, with twenty-five per cent. in addition ; nor shall he take out any volume of the *London Freemason's Quarterly Review*, *Masons Magazine*, or *Moore's Review*, without depositing twice the cost of such volume.

9. Before any book shall be taken out, it shall be covered with good envelope paper, in order that the covers or bindings of said books may not be soiled or easily worn out.

10. Neither volume of the Ancient Constitution shall be taken out of the Lodge Room, and all the books shall be returned on or before the first day of every Grand annual communication.

Which were adopted.

The Grand Lodge of Florida was then closed in AMPLE FORM, in peace and harmony.

SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, *Grand Master*.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 10, 1853.

M. W. SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, *Grand Master.*

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 10th, A. D. 1853, A. L. 5853, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. CHARLES A. M. MITCHELL, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. E. R. IVES, as Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

R. REV. W. D. HARLOW, Grand Chaplain.

W. CHARLES W. MOORE, as Grand Senior Deacon.

W. A. A. STEWART, as Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

P. G. M. THOMAS DOUGLAS, with a due representation of subordinate Lodges.

After prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM.

On motion,

"Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to seats in this Grand Lodge."

The Grand Master appointed Brothers Call, Bernard, and Rogers, a committee on Returns and Credentials.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, until seven o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Returns and Credentials made the following report, which was received, read, and adopted :

"The committee on Returns and Credentials, beg leave to report, that

they have examined the returns from Hiram Lodge, No. 5 ; St. John's Lodge, No. 12 ; Dade Lodge, No. 14 ; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16 ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18 ; Marion Lodge, No. 19 ; Solomon's Lodge, No. 20 ; Gee Lodge, No. 21 ; Newport Lodge, No. 23 ; Alachua Lodge, No. 26 ; Columbia Lodge, No. 27 ; Micanopy Lodge, No. 29 ; and De Soto and Suwannee Lodges under dispensation. That without undertaking to pass at this time upon the correctness or incorrectness of the said returns, they report the following brethren as being members of this Grand Lodge, and being entitled to vote in the proceedings :

"From Hiram Lodge, No. 5—James A. Newman, Master ; James Ellenwood, Senior Warden ; James A. Cooksey, Junior Warden ; James Ellenwood, Representative.

"From St. John's Lodge, No. 12—Gad Humphreys, Worshipful Master ; George J. Zehnbaaur, Senior Warden ; Ora Howard, Junior Warden ; W. A. Forward, Representative.

"From Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16—James E. Simpson, Worshipful Master ; John C. Julian, Senior Warden ; Thomas V. Mins, Junior Warden.

"From Centreville Lodge, No. 11—Kenneth Bemby, Worshipful Master ; John D. F. Houck, Senior Warden ; John M. Hill, Junior Warden ; Jacob Elliott, Representative.

"From Marion Lodge, No. 19—R. W. Marston, Worshipful Master ; John G. Reardon, Senior Warden ; A. C. Brown, Junior Warden ; S. St. George Rogers, Representative.

"Brother C. A. M. Mitchell, D. G. M., has presented a proxy from the Master, Senior, and Junior Wardens of Marion Lodge, of the past year. None of said officers were reflected to the stations which they filled during the last year, and your committee are, therefore, of the opinion, that Brother Mitchell is not entitled to vote for them at this communication. One of said officers, Brother R. W. Marston, who was Senior Warden of Marion Lodge during the last year, is now the Worshipful Master of said Lodge, and, as such, entitled to a voice in the deliberations of this Grand Lodge, but the proxy in question is signed by him as Senior Warden, which office he no longer fills.

"From Solomon's Lodge, No. 20.—W. D. Harlow, Worshipful Master ; John S. Sammis, Senior Warden ; Samuel Buffington, Junior Warden ; W. D. Harlow, Representative. W. D. Harlow also presents a proxy from the Senior and Junior Wardens of said Lodge, and your committee recommend that Brother Harlow be substituted in the place of the brethren whose proxies he holds.

"From Gee Lodge, No. 21.—Jesse Coe, Worshipful Master ; Nelson Hawley, Senior Warden ; R. J. R. Bee, Junior Warden ; Samuel Boardman, Representative.

"From Alachua Lodge, No. 26—Stephen Fagan, Worshipful Master ; George L. Brown, Senior Warden ; Charles L. Wilson, Junior Warden. Brother Jesse T. Bernard presents proxies from Worshipful Master,

Senior and Junior Wardens, and also a commission as alternate Representative, and your committee recommend that he be substituted in the place of the brethren whose proxies he holds.

"From Columbia Lodge, No. 27—Asa A. Stewart, proxy for the Worshipful Master ; M. Whit Smith, E. R. Ives, proxies for the Senior Warden ; S. L. Niblack, Asa A. Stewart, proxies for the Junior Warden ; J. W. Cathey and E. R. Ives, and your committee recommend that Brothers Ives and Stewart be substituted in place of the brethren whose proxies they hold.

"From Micanopy Lodge, No. 29—C. A. M. Mitchell, proxy for W. M. Geiger, Worshipful Master ; A. H. McCormick, Senior Warden ; W. J. Duval, Junior Warden ; George Helvenston, Representative. Your committee recommend that Brother Mitchell be substituted in place of the brethren whose proxy he holds.

"Your committee have also examined the returns from Dade Lodge, No. 14, but these returns do not state who are the officers of said Lodge for the present Masonic year. Brother John B. Taylor has presented his credentials from said Lodge, as its representative, under the seal of the Lodge, and your committee are of the opinion that he should be allowed to vote as the representative of said Lodge.

"Your committee have also examined the returns from Newport Lodge, No. 23, and are in like manner unable to say who are its officers for the present Masonic year, and entitled to represent it upon the floor of this Grand Lodge. Brother A. B. Noyes presents his credentials under the seal of the Lodge, and signed by James Ormond, Worshipful Master (who it appears from the returns, was the last Master of said Lodge), and James Caverly, Secretary (in like manner the last Secretary), as together with Benjamin Chaires, the representative of said Lodge. Your committee are of the opinion that Brother Noyes be allowed to vote as the representative of said Lodge.

"Brother B. C. Pope, presents his claim to be a member of this Grand Lodge as Worshipful Master of Madison Lodge, No. 11, and Brother G. W. Call as proxy for R. H. Shaffer, Senior Warden of Madison Lodge, No. 11, but as no returns have been received from said Lodge, your committee are of opinion that they are not entitled to represent said Lodge at this communication.

"From Franklin Lodge No. 6—Henry R. Taylor, proxy for Samuel Benezet, Worshipful Master ; J. S. May, Senior Warden ; O. Crawford, Junior Warden ; and Henry R. Taylor, Representative. Your committee recommend that Brother Taylor be substituted in the place of the brother whose proxy he holds.

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Thomas Hayward, Worshipful Master ; R. A. Shine, Senior Warden ; I. W. Bowen, Junior Warden ; Joseph Clisby, Representative.

"The committee also report, that they have received and examined the returns of Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25, and report Joseph W. Moore,

as Worshipful Master ; Jesse Carter, Senior Warden ; and M. L. Shanahan, Junior Warden ; Brother Joseph Moore, Representative.

"Brother W. W. Harrison has presented his credentials as representative of Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16.

"From Escambia Lodge, No. 15—James H. Lloyd, Worshipful Master ; Walker Anderson, Senior Warden ; M. Palmer, Junior Warden. Brother W. Anderson, also presents a proxy from M. Palmer, signed Worshipful Master *ex-officio* of Escambia Lodge, No. 15. Your committee are of the opinion that Brother Palmer has ceased to be Worshipful Master, *ex-officio*, by the new election of officers, which took place at the meeting preceeding the 27th December last, and is, therefore, not entitled to appoint a proxy as such. Brother Anderson has also presented his credentials as representative of said Lodge.

"From Washington Lodge, No. 2—Samuel B. Love, Worshipful Master ; J. M. W. Davidson, Senior Warden ; Alexander Biles, Junior Warden ; J. M. W. Davidson, Representative, Senior Warden, and proxy for Worshipful Master and Junior Warden.

"From Eucheanna Lodge, No. 16—Daniel G. McLean, Worshipful Master ; John W. Williams, Senior Warden ; John McKenzie, Junior Warden.

"Your committee further report, that these Lodges have sent their returns in due form, and have paid their dues to the Grand Secretary. Also, Jackson Lodge, No 1.

"From Solomon's Lodge, No. 20—W. D. Harlow, Worshipful Master ; John S. Sammis, Senior Warden ; Samuel Buffington, Junior Warden. W. D. Harlow, proxy for Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and also Representative.

"From Dade Lodge No. 14.—P. J. Fontane, Worshipful Master ; William Curry, Senior Warden ; F. Filor, Junior Warden.

"From Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25—Joseph Moore, Representative.

"From Hamilton Lodge, No. 22—J. J. Polhill, Worshipful Master ; George Cornwall, Senior Warden ; John F. Trippe, Junior Warden ; L. A. Folsom, Representative.

"From Concordia Lodge, No. 28—J. H. Verdier, Worshipful Master ; Alexander Cromartie, Senior Warden ; Charles Bannerman, Junior Warden ; J. W. Johnston, Representative.

"From Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16—Brother Thomas Brown proxy for James E. Simpson, Worshipful Master.

"G. W. CALL, *Chairman.*"

Brother Dyke offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of Newport Lodge, No. 23, elected for the present year, be entitled to seats in this Grand Lodge."

Which was received and adopted.

P. G. M. Douglas, chairman of the Library Committee, made the following report :

"The Library Committee who were charged with the duty of purchasing books for the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they have purchased during the last year, sundry works amounting to the sum of thirty-seven dollars and thirteen cents, including the amount of subscriptions for the years 1852 and 1853, to certain periodicals, as will more fully appear by reference to the bill for the same, which is herewith rendered, and to which your committee beg leave to refer as part of this report. There is in the hands of the chairman of your committee a balance of sixty-six dollars and ninety-nine cents, which, it is believed, will be amply sufficient to purchase all the books of a purely Masonic character which may be published during the current year. The purchases already made, include, it is believed, nearly all the valuable Masonic works now in the English language. A copy of Laurie's *History of Freemasonry*, and *Theocratic Freemasonry*, by Dr. Oliver, both very valuable works, have been ordered, but they are out of print. Your committee, however, hope to be able to procure second hand copies of those works. Your committee have also ordered a copy of a work on Masonic jurisprudence, now in the course of publication, or soon to be published, by Bro. Charles W. Moore, editor of the *Masonic Magazine*, which is a desideratum in Masonic science.

"There are many valuable Masonic works in the German language, some of which, it is understood, will soon be translated into the English language and published, which will add much to our Masonic literature. The editions of the more valuable Masonic publications are generally exhausted very soon after they come out. Your committee, therefore, deem it advisable that the balance now in the hands of their chairman should be held for the purchase of such books so soon as they are to be had, and your committee will so hold it, or pay it over, as the Grand Lodge may direct. Fifty dollars of the one hundred mentioned in the account, was received from the Grand Chapter, and fifty from the Grand Lodge, and if to be paid over, the respective amounts to be returned to each should be apportioned. All of which is respectfully submitted.

"THOMAS DOUGLAS, *Chairman*."

Brother Thomas Hayward, from the committee to revise the Constitution, submitted a report. On motion, the reported Constitution was then read and considered by sections, amended and adopted, as appears in the Appendix, as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Accounts—Brothers BOARDMAN, IVES, and BENARD.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers VERDIER, MOORE, and HAYWARD.

On Ways and Means—Brothers NOTES, HARLOW, and ROGERS.

On Visitors—Brothers HAYWARD, ANDERSON, and ORMOND.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers CLISBY, H. R. TAYLOR, and FLETCHER.

On Education—Brothers DAVIDSON, HARLOW, and ANDERSON.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers DUVAL, H. B. TAYLOR, and FORWARD.
On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers BEMBEY, VERDIER, and ANDERSON.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted, and Brothers G. J. W. H. R. Taylor and C. W. Moore, were appointed the special committee therein named :

"Resolved, That the first portion of this communication relative to the Grand Lecturer, be referred to the committee on Revised Constitution, and the other portion thereof be referred to a special committee raised for that purpose."

The following subordinate Lodges responded to the call of California they shall each cast one vote. If one or more of the officers, or their proxies, or the Representatives of a Lodge is absent, the Representative, if present, shall cast the vote or votes of the absent officers or Lodge for help, viz. : Marion Lodge, No. 19, \$5 ; Columbia Lodge, No. 27, \$5 ; Washington Lodge, No. 2, \$5 ; Concordia Lodge, No. 28, \$5 ; Jackson Lodge, No. 1, \$5 ; Hiram Lodge, No. 5, \$5 ; Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25, \$5 ; Newport Lodge, No. 26, \$5 ; Franklin Lodge, No. 6, \$5.

P. G. M. Douglas offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary, so soon as may be convenient after the close of this Grand Lodge, do issue a Circular Letter to such of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, as shall not then have responded to the call of the Grand Lodge of California, directing their attention to the resolution passed at our last Grand annual communication on that subject."

Which was read and adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. SAMUEL R. STEPHENS, Grand Master.
R. W. C. A. M. MITCHELL, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. E. R. IVES, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
W. JOS. W. MOORE, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Junior Deacon.
W. B. C. POPE, as Grand Pursuivant.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

JNO. P. DUVAL and THOMAS DOUGLAS, Past Grand Masters, with a due representation, members and visitors.

The Grand Secretary presented a petition from a number of Master Masons at Manatee, Florida, praying a charter, which was read, the petition granted, and the Grand Secretary ordered to make out a charter under the style and title of Manatee Lodge, No. 31.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following brethren a committee on printing, viz. : Brothers John B. Taylor, John P. Duval, and Thomas Hayward.

P. G. M. Douglas was excused from further attendance on the Grand Lodge. Also Brother Johnston, of Concordia Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow, at seven o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

On motion,

Resolved, That the next Grand annual communication of this Grand Lodge be held in the city of Tallahassee, on the second Monday in January, 1854.

The committee on By-Laws made the following report, which was read and adopted, viz. :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, beg leave to make the following report : We have carefully examined the by-laws and rules of order of Centreville Lodge, No. 18, and find them conformable to Masonic usage, and recommend their approval by the Grand Lodge.

"Your committee also report, that we have carefully examined the By-Laws of Suwannee Lodge, U. D., find them correct, and recommend their approval, and that a charter be granted said Lodge.

"Upon examination of the by-laws of De Soto Lodge, your committee would recommend, after a few alterations of little import, their approval, and that a charter be issued her.

"We would also recommend the approval of the By-Laws of Micanopy Lodge, No. 29, and Manatee Lodge, No 31.

"The committee also report, that the amendment to the by-laws of Columbia Lodge, reducing the dues payable to said Lodge to fifty cents per quarter, is in conformity with Masonic usage, and recommend its approval by the Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"K. BEMBRY, *Chairman.*"

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers, when the following brothers were duly elected :

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Master.

R. W. GAD HUMPHREYS, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. WALKER ANDERSON, Grand Junior Warden.

W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.

R. Rev. W. D. HARLOW, Grand Chaplain.

Brother Folsom was excused from attendance for balance of session.

Brother Mitchell offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz. :

"Resolved, That no representative to this Grand Lodge from a subordinate Lodge be entitled to receive any compensation for any day during which he was absent from the session of the same, during any period of said session, unless he render an excuse for his absence which shall be satisfactory to the Grand Lodge, and that hereafter no representative shall be allowed to receive compensation for his services, as such, who shall ask leave of absence, unless he render an excuse for his absence which shall be satisfactory to the Grand Lodge."

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. CHARLES A. M. MITCHELL, as Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. E. R. IVES, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

R. Rev. W. D. HARLOW, Grand Chaplain.

W. CHARLES W. MOORE, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Junior Deacon.

W. K. BEMBRY, Grand Pursuivant.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

M. W. P. G. Masters DUVAL and DOUGLAS, with a due representation of Lodges, members, and visitors.

The Grand Master, S. B. Stevens, through P. G. M. Duval, apologized for his absence from the Grand Lodge in consequence of illness in his family.

The Grand Chaplain introduced the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the sum of dollars be appropriated to Jackson Lodge, No. 1, to assist said Lodge in fitting up their room for the use of said Lodge and this Grand Lodge, so long as the same shall be required."

Which was read and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Brother Ives offered the following resolution, which was read and referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances, viz. :

"Resolved, That the Masons of Columbia Lodge, No. 27, who were made such while said Lodge was acting under dispensation, were not entitled to the privileges of membership in said Lodge, and consequently said Lodge ought not to be charged by the Grand Lodge for such supposed membership."

Brother Noyes offered a resolution, which was read and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

"Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the printing of the Constitution be authorized to contract for the printing of three hundred copies of the proceedings of this Grand annual communication, and that the Grand Secretary be required to furnish subordinate Lodges with three copies."

Brother Harlow offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That it is the decision of this Grand Lodge, that no re-balloting should be allowed on the same candidate, in subordinate Lodges, at any subsequent meeting under one year from the time of casting the ballot.

Brother H. R. Taylor was appointed chairman (in place of Brother Call) of committee on Returns and Credentials.

P. G. M. John P. Duval duly installed the officers-elect of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

- R. W. S. B. STEVENS, Grand Lecturer, Middle District.
- R. W. JOHN CHAIN, Grand Lecturer, Western District.
- R. W. JOSEPH MOORE, Grand Lecturer, Southern District.
- R. W. C. A. M. MITCHELL, Grand Lecturer, Eastern District.
- W. FRANCIS J. WHEATON, Grand Marshal.
- W. JOSEPH A. EDMONSON, Grand Senior Deacon.
- W. C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Junior Deacon.
- W. J. L. DEMILLY, Grand Pursuivant.
- W. — ROBERTS and M. GRANDY, Grand Stewards.
- Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

On motion, the following resolutions was referred to the committee on By-Laws, viz. :

Resolved by the Grand Lodge of the State of Florida, That Columbia Lodge, No. 27, have leave to amend her by-laws so as to make the amount of her quarterly dues fifty cents, in place of one dollar per quarter, as now charged.

The representative from Centreville Lodge was excused for the balance of the session.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to exemplify the work in the three different degrees before the Grand Lodge, at each annual communication, and the same being approved, it shall be his further duty to instruct the D. G. Lecturers therein, and cause the work to be done in conformity with that laid down by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

- M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Master.
- R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden,
- R. W. E. B. IVES, as Grand Junior Warden.
- R. W. JNO. B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
- W. I. W. BOWEN, as Grand Senior Deacon.
- W. H. R. TAYLOR, Grand Junior Deacon.
- W. K. BEMBRY, Grand Pursuivant.
- Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

P. G. Masters DUVAL and DOUGLAS, with a due representation, members and visitors.

The committee on Returns and Credentials reported as follows, which was read and adopted, viz. :

"The committee on Returns and Credentials beg leave to report, that they have examined the returns of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, and find them in accordance with the prescribed form.

"H. R. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*"

The committee on Ways and Means made the following report :

"The committee on Ways and Means beg leave to make the following report upon the several matters submitted for their consideration. With reference to the resolution introduced by Brother Harlow, for the relief of Jackson Lodge, No. 1, your committee, finding that Jackson Lodge met with a heavy misfortune in the destruction of their Lodge building, and a portion of their furniture, during the late gale in October last, would recommend the passage of the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That a donation of the amount of its dues for the past year be made to Jackson Lodge, No. 1.

"*Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred dollars be appropriated to Jackson Lodge, No. 1, to assist said Lodge in fitting up their room for the use of said Lodge and this Grand Lodge, so long as the same shall be required.

"With reference to the resolution introduced by Brother Noyes for the relief of Newport Lodge, No. 23, your committee recommend the passage of the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge donate to Newport Lodge, No. 23, the amount paid by such Lodge as dues for the past year.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"A. B. NOYES, *Chairman.*"

The committee on Accounts made the following report, which was received and concurred in, viz. :

"The committee on Accounts beg leave to report, that they have examined the Treasurer's accounts for last year, and find that he reports a balance in his hands at the end of the last Grand annual communication, of \$827 28. He presents vouchers for \$587 12, and charges \$50 on his account current, as paid to the Library Committee, making \$637 12; leaving a balance in his hands of \$190 16. They are satisfied that the accounts are correct, and they so report them. They ask for further time to report upon matters which will come before them for action, connected with this communication.

"The committee also report, that the amount due from Columbia Lodge, No. 27, for the number of members raised while under dispensation, is \$44, instead of \$47, as reported against them at the last annual communication.

"They also report that they have examined the accounts for the preceding Masonic year, as well as the accounts of money received for fees and dues during the present Grand annual communication, presented to them by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and find that he has received for charters and dispensations, the sum of \$200. There has been received for fees during this communication, the sum of \$869, making together the sum of \$1,069—this, with the amount of \$190 16, in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, makes the sum of \$1,259 16 on hand, subject to such appropriations as have been and will be made by this Grand Lodge. Since the above was written, Naval Lodge, No. 24, has sent in her dues, amounting to \$68. One dollar has been paid as a fine, making the amount of money on hand, subject as above, \$1,328 16.

"They also report, that since their last report, the Grand Secretary has received eleven dollars, which makes the amount on hand \$1,339 16, subject to such appropriations as have been or will be made. The committee recommend that the amount placed on the accompanying abstract of accounts of representatives be paid, for which vouchers are presented, made out in conformity with the form approved by the Grand Secretary.

"They also report, that since their last report, the dues of Hillsborough Lodge have been received, being fifty-three dollars, making that amount more than reported before, as the amount in the treasury of the Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"SAMUEL BOARDMAN, *Chairman.*"

Brother Clisby, from the committee on Unfinished Business, reported the following, which was received and concurred in, and the resolution adopted, viz.:

"The committee on Unfinished Business, in reference to a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge at its last annual communication, instructing the Grand Secretary 'to make such arrangements with Jackson Lodge, No. 1, as may be needful for the use of their lodge-room for the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and also for the use of it in the meantime as a depository or place of safe keeping for the books, records, papers, and property of this Grand Lodge,' report:

"That they have ascertained that said lodge-room was gratuitously tendered for the uses specified, by Jackson Lodge, No. 1, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Jackson Lodge, No. 1, for the liberality which dictated the gratuitous tender of the use of their lodge-room during the present communication of the Grand Lodge.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JOSEPH CLISBY, *Chairman.*"

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

P. G. M. Douglas offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of every subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to keep a visitors' book, in which they shall require every visitor to sign his name, and it shall also be the duty of such Lodges to transmit to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge a statement of the amount which they may respectively receive from visiting brethren, which sum shall be paid into the charity fund of the respective Lodges.

Bro. Boardman introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be, and are hereby presented to Bro. the Rev. E. G. Asay, and Bro. Lindsay, for their strenuous exertions in saving and preserving the books, papers, and furniture of this Grand Lodge during the storm of October last.

Bro. H. R. Taylor introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That hereafter at all communications of this Grand Lodge, and during the continuance of its daily meetings, the roll of members constituting this Grand body shall invariably be called, and the names of all absentees duly noted, before any of the regular business of the Grand Lodge shall be proceeded with, and that the names of all members or visitors present, and all who may enter the Lodge after the roll shall have been called, shall be entered on the minutes, giving to each member the initials of his Masonic title, and also his grade of office in this Grand Lodge. And this shall in no wise be omitted at any meeting of this Grand body—and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary (or he shall cause it to be done) either to keep such minutes of the daily proceedings, or transcribe the same, that if called for they may be read or referred to, at each successive meeting—and that the Grand Secretary shall have power to appoint a deputy or assistant Secretary to aid him in the discharge of this and the general duties of his office, whose services shall be paid for by this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until three o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, three o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The work in the third degree of Masonry was exemplified by Brother Moore.

The Grand Lodge of Florida was then closed in AMPLE FORM.

THOS. HAYWARD, *Grand Master*.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.

CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE,

As amended and adopted at this Grand Annual Communication.

ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. The style and title of this Grand Lodge shall be the **MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA.**

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall hold a Grand annual communication once in every year : commencing on the second Monday in January, at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee.

SEC. 3. The Grand Lodge shall not be opened to work unless there be present a representation from at least five Lodges subordinate thereto.

SEC. 4. All members of the Grand Lodge shall be properly invested with their Jewels and clothing before they take their seats ; except, under very peculiar circumstances, a member may be permitted to take his seat, for the time being, without his proper Jewel, by consent of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Past Grand Secretaries, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Masters who are members of subordinate Lodges, the Masters and Wardens of subordinate Lodges, or their proxies ; and one Representative from each subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 2. The appointment of Representatives must be made by the Worshipful Master, by and with the consent of the Lodge, or in such other manner as may be prescribed by the by-laws of the Lodge ; to be certified by the Secretary thereof, under the seal of the Lodge.

SEC. 3. The Representative of a subordinate Lodge must be a Master Mason and a member of the Lodge which he represents ; and no representative shall be entitled to a vote in this Grand Lodge, until the dues of the Lodge he represents are paid or remitted.

SEC. 4. In the election of Grand Officers, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to constitute a choice ; and no Grand Officer shall be eligible to election to the same office for a longer period than two consecutive years, except the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Chaplain.

ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. The Officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected annually, on the third day of the session, by a majority of the written ballots.

to be given as hereinafter provided ; which ballots shall be collected by the Grand Senior Deacon, and shall be by him delivered to a teller (to be designated by the M. W. Grand Master, or the officer presiding for the occasion), to be counted ; and the Grand Secretary shall, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, or officer presiding, proclaim the result. And during the time the G. S. Deacon is collecting the ballots and the Grand Secretary is proclaiming the officers elected, every member shall be silent and keep his seat. The G. S. Deacon shall not present the ballot-box to any voter, until the Grand Secretary shall have called upon him to answer, beginning with the M. W. Grand Master, and continuing the voters downwards, according to seniority and grade. If it is found, on counting the ballots, that there are more ballots than there are voters, the M. W. Grand Master, or the officer presiding, shall charge the members to be more attentive to their duties, and order another ballot ; and if any member is convicted of putting more ballots in the box than he is entitled to, he shall forever be debarred from a seat in the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. No person shall be elected an officer of the Grand Lodge, unless he be a Master Mason, and a member of a Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and entitled to a seat in the same : *Provided*, he is not thereby raised to a grade higher than what he may have attained in a subordinate Lodge, working under this jurisdiction ; and before entering on the duties of his office, he shall be duly installed.

SEC. 3. The officers to be elected by the Grand Lodge, are the

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND SENIOR WARDEN,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND SECRETARY,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND TREASURER,
RIGHT REV. GRAND CHAPLAIN.

And the officers to be appointed are the

GRAND ORATOR,
One GRAND LECTURER and three DEPUTY GRAND LECTURERS,
GRAND SENIOR DEACON,
GRAND JUNIOR DEACON,
GRAND MARSHAL,
GRAND SWORD-BEARER,
GRAND PURSUIVANT,
GRAND TYLER.

And they shall be titled and ranked as above arranged.

SEC. 4. The Grand Officers-elect and the Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters, who are members of this Grand Lodge, shall each be entitled to one vote. The Master, Wardens, or their proxies, and Representatives of every subordinate Lodge, shall be entitled to one vote each.

SEC. 5. For the purpose of providing that no Lodge shall possess

more power in the Grand Lodge than another, it is hereby provided, that every Lodge represented in this Grand Lodge shall be allowed to cast her whole four votes in manner and form following, viz. : If the Master, Wardens, or their proxies and Representatives are present, they shall each cast one vote. If one or more of the officers, or their proxies, or the Representative of a Lodge is absent, the Representative, if present, shall cast the vote or votes of the absent officers. If the Representative is absent, then shall the officers present cast the vote or votes of the absent officers or their proxies and Representative according to grade and seniority, commencing with the Worshipful Master, so that in no case shall any subordinate Lodge represented in this Grand Lodge, lose the power of throwing her whole four votes by the absence or inability to act of any of her officers, or their proxies and Representative. All Past Grand Senior Wardens shall be entitled to one vote collectively, all past Junior Grand Wardens shall be entitled to one vote collectively. And all elective Grand Officers who may go out of office during the continuance of the term of any Grand annual communication, shall be entitled to a vote during the term of that communication. No Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer shall be entitled to more than one vote, except he be the Representative of one of the officers, or the proxy thereof, of a subordinate Lodge, except in the case of the M. W. Grand Master or presiding officer for the time being, who shall have the casting vote, except in the election of Grand Officers. No Lodge shall be entitled to a vote in this Grand Lodge until it has been chartered ; and no Grand Officer, Past Grand Officer, Representative, or proxy, can delegate his right of voting to another, in any case whatever.

ARTICLE IV.

Sec. 1. It shall be the duty of the M. W. Grand Master, to appoint all committees, and at the commencement of each Grand annual communication, to appoint the following standing committees, to consist of three members each, who shall be members of the Grand Lodge : *Provided*, That any of the said committees may be increased to a larger number, by a vote of the Grand Lodge :

1st. A *Committee on Accounts*, whose duty it shall be to examine the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and all other accounts submitted to them by the Grand Lodge, and make report upon the same.

2d. A *Committee of Ways and Means*, whose duty it shall be to take into consideration the state of the funds and finances of the Grand Lodge, and report such measures as they may deem expedient for the benefit of the Fraternity ; and to act on all such matters as may be to them referred.

3d. A *Committee on Propositions and Grievances*, whose duty it shall be to inquire into, and report upon all appeals to the Grand Lodge,

from decisions of subordinate Lodges ; and to consider and report upon all matters of complaint, or propositions that may be to them referred.

4th. A *Committee on Dispensations and By-Laws*, whose duty it shall be to examine the work and by-laws of Lodges under dispensation, and report thereon.

5th. A *Committee on Foreign Correspondence*, whose duty it shall be to examine and make report upon all communications from other Grand Lodges, and other correspondence with this Grand Lodge ; and, when deemed necessary, this committee may hold its sittings during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

6th. A *Committee on Returns*, whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon the returns from subordinate Lodges, and the credentials of representatives and proxies.

7th. A *Committee on Visitors*, whose duty it shall be to examine and accommodate all visiting brethren, and see that none be admitted, unless they are Master Masons.

8th. A *Committee on Unfinished Business*, whose duty it shall be to report the unfinished business of the previous Grand communication.

9th. A *Committee on Education*, whose duty it shall be to take the subject of Schools under their consideration, and to report upon such subjects of education as may be from time to time referred to them.

ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. The duty of the Grand Lodge is to receive all appeals, redress grievances, and remove complaints of the subordinate Lodges ; to grant warrants or charters and authorize new Lodges, to regulate their work, reprehend malconduct in any of its subordinate Lodges, relieve distressed brethren, their widows and orphans ; to correspond with every Grand Lodge on the Globe, so far as they may deem right, for the good of the Fraternity, and to devise and design plans, problems, and positions for the subordinate Lodges to execute ; and also, to choose and elect all the officers of this Grand Lodge, and duly install them.

SEC. 2. Any subordinate Lodge which shall not be represented for three successive Grand annual communications, or which shall at any time be in arrears for more than twelve months, shall be cited to appear at the next Grand annual communication, and if it shall then fail to make due representation and payment, and account satisfactorily for its delinquency, the charter shall be arrested. Nor shall any subordinate Lodge be entitled to vote, either by its representative, its officers, or their proxies, unless its dues to the Grand Lodge are fully paid or remitted : *Provided*, That if any subordinate Lodge, that has incurred a forfeiture of its charter by delinquency, shall make due returns and payment of dues, at the next succeeding communication of the Grand Lodge, and shall make satisfactory explanation for its default, it may be reinstated without any additional expense.

SEC. 3. Every subordinate Lodge shall pay annually, into the Grand Lodge fund, for each initiation for the preceding year, the sum of one dollar, and for each member of the Lodge the sum of one dollar, except ministers of the Gospel, who may be initiated, passed, and raised, and retain membership, free from fees or dues.

SEC. 4. It is the duty of every subordinate Lodge to assemble for work at least once a month, except the months of July, August, and September, in which months they may meet, or not, at their option.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of every subordinate Lodge to make a complete return of its members at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge; stating particularly the date of each initiation, passing, and raising; the Masonic grade of its members; admissions, withdrawals, reinstatements, rejections, suspensions, expulsions, and deaths; together with the time and place of its stated meetings, agreeably to such form as may be prescribed by the Grand Secretary; which return must be signed by the W. Master, and attested by the Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge, or in such other manner as the By-Laws of the Lodge shall direct, and accompanied with the whole account of its dues to the Grand Lodge; and for this purpose, the Grand Secretary shall cause forms to be printed and distributed to each subordinate Lodge annually.

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of every subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to ascertain and keep themselves informed of the number of children of Master Masons residing within their respective jurisdictions, who are or may be destitute of the means of education—to cause them to be instructed in the first rudiments of a general English education, so far as the funds of such Lodges will respectively allow, consistent with other charities, and to report to the Grand Lodge, annually, the number of such children and the measures adopted in regard to them.

SEC. 7. No subordinate Lodge can, at a called meeting, alter, amend or rescind any part of the proceedings adopted at a stated meeting. No subordinate Lodge shall initiate any candidate who has been once rejected, within one year after such rejection; nor confer any degree on a brother who has been initiated in another Lodge, without first obtaining, if practicable, the permission of such Lodge, and a certificate that he has complied with all its requisitions.

SEC. 8. All petitions for initiation must lie over one month, and no Lodge shall confer more than one degree on the same candidate on the same evening, unless it be considered an actual case of emergency; nor pass or raise a brother, unless he shall have given, by examination in open Lodge, satisfactory evidence of proficiency in the preceding degree.

SEC. 9. No Lodge shall admit to membership any brother Mason in arrears to another Lodge, or to an extinct Lodge, at the time of its demise, until he shall have paid to the Grand Lodge the

arrears due to such extinct Lodge. No Lodge shall change its place of meeting from one village, town, city, or county to another, without first obtaining permission from the Grand Lodge. No Lodge shall elect any member as its Master, except Wardens and Past Masters ; nor shall any subordinate Lodge have the right to try its Master ; but any five members of a Lodge may impeach their Master, by filing charges and specifications against him with the Grand Secretary, who shall cite him before the Grand Lodge to answer the same ; and the proceedings against him shall be as provided for in other cases of trial.

SEC. 10. No member of a subordinate Lodge shall be suspended or expelled for non-payment of dues ; but a member of a Lodge may be stricken from the roll of membership for refusing to pay his dues ; and no publication shall be made of suspension for a shorter time than one year.

ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. The M. W. Grand Master is invested with power to convene the Grand Lodge at any time when he shall think the emergency and the good of the Craft require it.

SEC. 2. In case of a vacancy in any Grand Office, either by the death or resignation of any Grand Officer, or from any other cause, the M. W. Grand Master is invested with the power to fill such vacancy by appointment and installation, until the election at the next Grand annual communication.

SEC. 3. The M. W. Grand Master has the command of every other officer, and may call on any and all of them, at any time, for advice or assistance on business relative to the Craft.

SEC. 4. The M. W. Grand Master is invested with the power of granting dispensations for new Lodges under this jurisdiction, at his discretion, during the recess of the Grand Lodge ; and in his absence or inability to act, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master is invested with the same power.

SEC. 5. In case of the death or refusal to serve or be installed of the M. W. Grand Master, all the powers, authority, and privileges appertaining to his station shall devolve upon, and be performed by the following Grand Officers, according to the grade and succession herein specified:—First, upon the R. W. Deputy Grand Master ; secondly, upon the R. W. Grand Senior Warden ; thirdly, upon the R. W. Grand Junior Warden ; fourthly, the Past Grand Officers, according to rank and seniority ; fifthly, the presiding Masters of subordinate Lodges, according to rank and seniority ; and sixthly, Past Masters of subordinate Lodges according to rank and seniority ; and in this order shall their right to preside be determined, in the absence of any superior officer.

ARTICLE VII.

SEC. 1. It is the duty of the M. W. Grand Master to install the Deputy Grand Master, but he may depute any Master Mason to install the

other officers of the Grand Lodge, or any officer of a subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 2. It is the duty of the M. W. Grand Master to subscribe the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, after they have been read by the Grand Secretary and approved by a majority of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. It is the duty of the R. Rev. Grand Chaplain to address the throne of Divine Grace, in a prayer, at the opening and closing of every Grand Lodge, and to officiate on all other suitable occasions.

SEC. 4. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, before they enter upon the discharge of their duties, shall each enter into bond, with satisfactory security, in such penalty as the M. W. Grand Master shall direct, payable to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Florida; which bond shall be conditioned to receive and pay over all moneys which may belong to the Grand Lodge, and at all times to hand over all or any part of said money, bonds, notes, or other property in their hands belonging to the Grand Lodge, upon requisition of the Grand Lodge or its authorized agent, and in all respects to discharge the duties appertaining to their office, or imposed by the Grand Lodge. The bond of the Grand Secretary shall be filed with the Grand Master, and the bond of the Grand Treasurer with the Grand Secretary.

SEC. 5. It is the duty of the Grand Secretary to keep a fair and regular record, in proper books for that purpose, of all the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. He shall not record any proceedings that are not duly adopted or ordered by the Grand Lodge, and when read and approved by the Grand Lodge, he shall publish with its proceedings.

SEC. 6. No warrant, certificate, or other instrument of writing shall be of any validity, if issued by the Grand Secretary, unless attested by his signature, and has the seal of the Grand Lodge affixed thereto, except receipts, and warrants upon the Treasurer, which need not have the Grand Lodge seal affixed thereto.

SEC. 7. All the books, records, papers, seals, &c., kept by the Grand Secretary, shall be the property of the Grand Lodge, and shall be delivered to any agent or committee appointed by order of the Grand Lodge for that purpose, when so required.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to attend personally, all meetings of the Grand Lodge, and have present all necessary books and papers of his office; but if prevented from attendance by unavoidable cause, he may appoint a deputy, to be approved by the Grand Lodge; or the M. W. Grand Master, or officer presiding, may appoint a Secretary *pro tem*. It shall be the duty of the M. W. Grand Master to keep a book, in which he shall record all decisions which he may make with regard to all mooted points in Masonry, submitted to him by any subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 9. The Grand Secretary shall keep books, in which shall be opened a regular account against the Grand Treasurer, charging him with all moneys paid over to him, and crediting him with all warrants

drawn on him ; a full report of which he shall make at every Grand annual communication. He shall also keep regular accounts with each subordinate Lodge, charging them with all dues, &c., and crediting them with all moneys received ; which books shall at all times be open to the inspection of the committee on accounts. He shall receive all moneys due the Grand Lodge, and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same. He shall publish in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, a list of all the members of the subordinate Lodges, agreeably to their returns, together with all initiations, passings, and raisings ; suspensions for unmasonic conduct, for a longer period than twelve months ; expulsions and deaths. He shall also publish the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, as reported by the committee on Accounts.

SEC. 10. The Grand Secretary shall receive for his services, to be paid at every Grand annual communication, out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, the sum of not less than one hundred dollars—also, the sum of five dollars for each charter or dispensation issued by order of the Grand Lodge, or the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to be paid for by the Lodge to which the dispensation or charter shall be issued : *Provided*, That no additional charge shall be made for the charter, when the dispensation to the same Lodge has been paid for. The Grand Secretary shall be entitled, also, to receiving the following fees for his services, to be paid by the parties employing him : For copying from the records, files or proceedings of the Grand Lodge, or any instrument of writing whatever (except receipts and warrants on the Treasurer), ten cents for every one hundred words. Fifty cents for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any instrument of writing, except to dispensations or charters—and two dollars for every diploma : *Provided*, The Grand Secretary shall not be entitled to any fee for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any deed instrument or paper for the use of the Grand Lodge, such as particular summons, copies for the subordinate Lodges, or for foreign Grand Lodges, etc.

SEC. 11. The Grand Treasurer shall receive all moneys due the Grand Lodge, from the hands of the Grand Secretary, giving him a receipt for the same ; and shall pay none out, except upon a warrant of the M. W. Grand Master, by order of the Grand Lodge. He shall keep a regular account of all moneys received, or paid out by him ; and on the first day of each Grand annual communication, he shall lay a statement of his accounts before the Grand Lodge. He shall be entitled to receive as a compensation for his services, two per centum on all money received and paid out by him.

ARTICLE VIII.

SEC. 1. Each and every association of Masons, that may hereafter obtain from the Grand Lodge a charter, or from the M. W. Grand Mas-

ter, or R. W. Deputy Grand Master, in the recess of the Grand Lodge, a dispensation to authorize them to work as a regular Lodge of Freemasons, shall, before receiving the same, pay to the Grand Secretary the sum of fifty-five dollars—fifty dollars of which to go into the funds of the Grand Lodge, and five dollars, as a fee, to the Grand Secretary : *Provided*, That when the Grand Secretary has received a fee for issuing a dispensation, he shall not be entitled to charge a fee also for the charter to the same subordinate Lodge.

SEC. 2. Any Lodge having worked under dispensation, and obtained from the Grand Lodge a charter, shall have their officers regularly installed, and then proceed to work, and be entitled to all the privileges of a chartered Lodge.

SEC. 3. No Lodge, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, shall confer the first three degrees of Masonry for a less sum than twenty dollars; and no degree shall be conferred unless the fee for the same shall be paid to the Secretary : *Provided*, That any subordinate Lodge may confer the degrees upon, or admit to membership, any minister of the Gospel, free of fees or dues.

SEC. 4. When a charter, held under this Grand Lodge, shall be surrendered or forfeited, the whole of the property, jewels, regalia, books, and papers, shall belong to and be invested in the Grand Lodge, and be surrendered to any officer or agent, properly appointed to receive the same.

SEC. 5. Every member of the Grand Lodge, as also every member of the subordinate Lodges, shall pay due submission and obedience to their respective superior officers.

SEC. 6. Each subordinate Lodge shall elect its officers at their regular meetings, last preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, or as soon thereafter as may be ; and shall continue in office one year, or until their successors are duly elected and installed ; and any officer may be reelected as often as the Lodge may determine.

SEC. 7. No petition for initiation or membership shall be withdrawn after having been referred to a committee for inquiry. Nor can a candidate, who has been once rejected, be knowingly received by any other Lodge under this jurisdiction, without the consent of the Lodge which rejected him.

SEC. 8. The vote to advance a brother to any degree of Masonry, should be unanimous as the vote which admits him as a member.

ARTICLE IX.

SEC. 1. The general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members, is, that such admission must be sanctioned by entire unanimity ; and so sacred does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that it is competent for a minority, or any member of the Lodge prior to the final admission to membership, to arrest the candidate, for good cause shown.

SEC. 2. Grand Lodge jurisdiction should be maintained inviolate. In no instance has a subordinate Lodge a right to receive a candidate from another State, where a Grand Lodge has been regularly established, and in the exercise of its authority without its consent. And the subordinate Lodges should pay attention to their jurisdiction, which is an equal distance between each other ; and in no case receive a candidate from the jurisdiction of another subordinate Lodge without a proper explanation, and the unanimous consent of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides.

ARTICLE X.

SEC. 1. If a Mason be guilty of, or charged with any unmasonic conduct, the charges should be inquired into by the Lodge of which such Mason is a member, or in whose jurisdiction such Mason resides ; and, if need be, regular proceedings may be instituted against such offending Mason, who may be suspended or expelled, subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. When a subordinate Lodge shall deal with, or proceed against a brother Mason, for unmasonic conduct, or for any offense derogatory to the Masonic character, all the charges and specifications shall be made in writing, and filed with the Secretary of the Lodge, whose duty it shall be to cause a copy thereof, duly made out, to be delivered to the accused, with reasonable notice of the time for taking testimony, as well for the defense of the accused, as to support the charges and specifications. And the accused may also have leave to take testimony, at such other reasonable times and places as he may designate, giving proper notice to the W. Master, or presiding officer of the Lodge, or its Secretary ; and, in all cases the whole of the testimony proper to be written, shall be taken in writing, and carefully preserved by the Secretary of the Lodge, or the committee appointed to conduct the examination ; and in all cases of an appeal to the Grand Lodge, from the decision of a subordinate Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to make out and forward to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge a full and complete transcript of the records and proceedings had in such case, embracing the charges and specifications, and the testimony taken on the case, with a note, on the records, of the names of the witnesses.

SEC. 3. It shall be the privilege of any brother Mason, feeling himself aggrieved by the decision of any subordinate Lodge, to take an appeal to the next Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge, where full cognizance shall be entertained of all matters relating thereto ; and, upon the whole evidence, such order or decision shall be pronounced as shall seem right and consistent with justice and Masonic usage. To effect which appeal, notice to the Lodge where the proceedings were instituted and decided, shall be deemed sufficient ; and notice of such appeal, with the transcript of the proceedings, shall

be lodged with the Grand Secretary as soon as may be ; which should be at least one month before the Grand annual communication, if practicable.

SEC. 4. Revising or abrogating the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother Mason, shall not (although it restores him to all the privileges of Masonry) restore him to membership in the Lodge from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

SEC. 5. An expulsion or suspension of a Mason from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, who is a member of a Blue Lodge, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from a Blue Lodge.

SEC. 7. The Secretaries of the several subordinate Lodges are required to report immediately to the Grand Secretary, the name of every person rejected, suspended, or expelled, who shall, on receipt of such notice, communicate the same to each subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XI.

SEC. 1. It requires the same unanimous vote to remove an order expelling or suspending a member of a Lodge from the privileges of Masonry, that is requisite for the admission of a petitioner for membership.

SEC. 2. The bare removal of a member of a subordinate Lodge into another jurisdiction, is not sufficient cause to forfeit his membership in the Lodge of which he was a member ; nor does it authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of members of such Lodge.

SEC. 3. It is the duty of each subordinate Lodge to communicate to the Grand Secretary from time to time, all such information, on matters concerning the Craft, as may be deemed for the good of Masonry generally ; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to correspond with the subordinate Lodges, whenever the Most Worshipful Grand Master shall think the good of the Craft requires it.

ARTICLE XII.

SEC. 1. No charter or dispensation, constituting a new Lodge, shall be granted to a less number than seven Master Masons ; nor unless the petition be recommended by the Lodge nearest the residence of the petitioners.

SEC. 2. Every new Lodge established, must transmit to the Grand Lodge, at its next annual communication, a copy of its by-laws and proceedings for examination, to see that they contain nothing contrary to the constitution of the Grand Lodge, or the ancient rules and regulations of Freemasonry. And, in like manner, all amendments made by subordinate Lodges to their by-laws, must be transmitted to the Grand Lodge for examination. And all Lodges working under a dispensation, must return to the Grand Lodge their dispensation, with

their by-laws and transcript of their proceedings, previously to obtaining a charter.

SEC. 3. None but Master Masons are recognized as members of a Lodge ; and all business must be transacted in the Lodge opened in the third degree, except that which relates especially to the conferring and lecturing in the subordinate degrees.

SEC. 4. Every Lodge may exercise all the rights of discipline over Masons, not members of any Lodge, who reside in the vicinity of such Lodge, so far as may relate to the Masonic conduct of such Masons, while resident therein.

ARTICLE XIII.

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of each subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to cause the proceedings of each Grand annual communication to be read in his Lodge, within one month after he receives them ; and shall also cause the constitution of this Grand Lodge to be read in his Lodge, at least once in each and every year.

SEC. 2. The names of all the permanent members of the Grand Lodge entitled to vote, and all the permanent resolutions and regulations of the Grand Lodge shall be printed annually, with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. No amendment of this constitution shall be made, unless the same shall be moved and seconded ; and then shall lie over for one entire vacation of the Grand Lodge, when it shall be put upon its passage, and if a majority of two-thirds of all the Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge entitled to vote, agree thereto at two consecutive meetings, it shall be declared a part of this constitution.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 9, 1854.

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Master.*

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 9th, A. D. 1854, A. L. 5854, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. JAMES ELLENWOOD, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. CHARLES RUSSELL, as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
W. STEPHEN FAGAN, as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. B. G. ALDERMAN, Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

P. G. Masters THOMAS BROWN, JOHN P. DUVAL, THOMAS DOUGLAS, SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, and a due representation of subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, with prayer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing, being members of subordinate Lodges, be respectfully invited to attend the meetings of this Grand Lodge."

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Brothers Duval, Miller, and Alderman, a committee on Credentials.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Master delivered the following address :

"BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :—We have once again met to consult and deliberate, I trust with a proper and becoming spirit, and with feelings and sentiments appropriate for the occasion, upon the interests of our beloved institution—the high purposes, the noble views, and grand designs of Masonry. Surely, it must be a pleasing duty to every worthy brother to take counsel and hold communion with his brethren ('who should dwell together in unity'), in all that pertains to matters of such grave import, considered in connection with their influence and their bearing upon the happiness and welfare of the human family. While expressing those pleasurable emotions which arise from a contemplation of the purposes and objects we have in view—feeling that we are here as men and brethren, to do whatsoever may be needful and right, in the discharge of the duties devolved upon us under the constitution—we should not forget our entire dependence upon that Great Being by whose goodness we are permitted to be here, and who has preserved, watched over, guided, and controlled us during the year we have just passed. While other lands have been severely scourged, we have been completely exempt from the ravages of disease. The angel of Death, whose terrible visitations elsewhere were seen and felt, in the frightful destruction of human life, has been mercifully spared to us, in this goodly portion of our heritage. Few, indeed, have been the visitations of the destroyer, and slight the work of destruction here, compared with the havoc and desolation that marked his course in other less favored lands. How, then, should our hearts swell with grateful emotions for the blessings that have thus been vouchsafed to us ! While acknowledging our dependence upon the Father of Mercies and the Giver of all Good, let us render up to Him, the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, the homage due from His creatures—the adoration and praise of thankful souls. We are here now, preserved by the kindness of a Wise and Good Providence ; it is meet and proper not only to express our gratitude, but to invoke the blessings of that same Providence upon this our present convocation.

"Though addressing you in compliance with established custom, and in performance of the obligation resting upon me in consequence of the position I occupy, I am conscious there is but little for me to say: I am saved the necessity of entering into the discussion of the many vexed Masonic questions which agitated the Grand Lodges of the United States in former years. The action of this Grand Lodge, based upon the reports of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, in the years 1848, '49 and '51, has been generally responded to by our sister Grand Lodges, and I know of but one subject upon which there is a contrariety of opinion, viz., the powers of a Grand Master. The action of Grand Master B. D. Hyam, of California, in making Masons at sight, without the assistance of a Lodge, has been the prolific source of Ma-

sonic debate throughout the Grand Lodges of the Union. It therefore becomes my duty, as no report will be made by the committee on Foreign Correspondence, to give my views relative to the powers of a Grand Master.

"In entering on this subject, I am fully aware of the array of talent of distinguished Masons for and against the powers of the Grand Master, and I would shrink from entering the arena were I to rely alone on my own powers of mind or Masonic lore ; but believing as I do that this question has long been settled by our ancient brethren, I shall rely alone upon their decisions and proceedings to sustain the position I take. In sustaining the powers assumed by the Grand Master of California, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire decides that Grand Masters of Grand Lodges have power to assemble Masons and confer degrees upon a candidate at pleasure. Grand Master Hubbard, of Ohio, declares that a case might occur in which he would deem it his duty to exercise the ancient and high prerogative, and make a Mason at sight, without the intervention of a Lodge or other assistance. The committee on Foreign Correspondence of New York, declares, '*since the time when the memory of Masons runneth not to the contrary,*' Grand Masters have enjoyed the high prerogative of making Masons at sight, without any preliminaries. The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin declares that the Grand Master has the right, in case of emergency, to summon a sufficient number of brethren, open a Lodge, and confer the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, is a fact so well established, that it is surprising that any one at this day should question it. It is due to Milwaukee Lodge, No. 3, to state, she, some two years since, was the first to deny this power to a Grand Master, as appears from the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That Milwaukee Lodge, No. 3, recognizes the right and authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to confer the three first degrees of Masonry upon a candidate in a *regular constituted subordinate Lodge*, by his act of dispensation, the brethren being duly notified thereof, and by their *unanimous consent* ; but they protest against the right of the Grand Master to exercise the power claimed for him in the above report, as subversive of Masonic rules, and dangerous to the rights and very existence of subordinate Lodges.

"The Grand Lodge of Florida, through their committee on Foreign Correspondence in 1851, was the first Grand Lodge that sustained the position of Milwaukee Lodge. This was done before the California difficulties had occurred, and which has since elicited so much debate among the Grand Lodges of the United States. Although the report of the committee has received generally the approbation and commendation of our sister Grand Lodges, it is a singular omission that neither Grand Lodges nor the Masonic periodicals have noticed this report in this particular, although they occupy the same position, rely upon the same arguments, and cite the same Masonic authorities. This

will be apparent by reference to our report of 1851 (title Powers of Grand Masters, page 54). I am induced to believe that the intelligent committees of the Grand Lodges which have reported in favor of the powers of the Grand Masters, to make Masons at sight, without the assistance of a Lodge, have been led into error by an examination of the powers of Grand Masters and Grand Lodges as constituted previous to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of England at the Apple-Tree Tavern in London in 1715. Previous to this period, the Grand Lodges, or more properly the General Assemblies as they were then called, consisted of Masters, Fellow Crafts, and Apprentices in their individual capacities, and subordinate Lodges were constituted in the same manner without charters, and as they conferred degrees without charters, and at their convenience as to time and place, the presence of the Grand Master was necessary, and it is admitted the Grand Master had then equal authority; but it was always necessary that the degree should be conferred either in a Grand or subordinate Lodge.

"To prove the correctness of my position, I will quote the cases cited by the committee on Correspondence of New York in opposition: 'In 1737, the Earl of Darnley being Grand Master, an occasional Lodge was convened at Kew, for the reception into the Order of the then Prince of Wales, father of George III. (See *Smith's Use and Abuse of Freemasonry*, page 71, edition 1783.)'

"It is said that King Edward VI., Henry VI., and Henry VIII., were all initiated, passed, and raised by the Grand Masters at the time, in a hall of the palace in London, an *occasional Lodge being convened for that purpose*. At the Grand Feast at Freemasons' Hall in London, on the 13th May, 1795, his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, then Grand Master, being in the chair, was accompanied by his Royal Brother, son of the Duke of Gloucester, who had been initiated, passed, and raised, at an *occasional Lodge convened for that purpose*, on the preceding evening. (*Preston's Masonry*, page 309, edition 1798.) On Thursday, the 6th of February, 1787, the same Prince of Wales above mentioned was made a Mason in an *occasional Lodge*, convened for that purpose at the Star and Garter, in Pall Mall, London, over which the Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master, presided in person. On Friday, the 21st November, 1787, his Royal Highness, the Duke of York, nephew to the Grand Master, was initiated into Masonry, by a *special Lodge convened for that purpose* at the same place as above, over which the Grand Master presided in person. (*Preston*, pages 293-4.) It is stated in *Preston*, page 226, that at the initiation of Frederick, Prince of Wales, at Kew, in 1737, Dr. Desaguliers presided as Master, that he was passed on the same day, at the *same Lodge*, and was, at another *Lodge convened* at the same place, soon after raised to the degree of Master Mason. Dr. Desaguliers was then Deputy Grand Master of England. Numerous other instances in point might be cited. These were evidently cases where Masons were made at sight by the

Grand Master, but always with the assistance of a Grand or subordinate Lodge, as in the last instance specially convened for the purpose. There is not a solitary instance found as far as my researches extend, of a Grand Master having conferred a degree by himself, or associated with other Masons in their individual capacities, but in all cases he was assisted by a Grand, or subordinate Lodge, specially called for the occasion, and hence called *occasional Lodges*. This view is further sustained by the following extract from the regulations made in General Assembly December 27th, 1663, Henry Jermain, Earl of St. Albans, Grand Master :

“That no person of what degree soever be made or accepted a Freemason, unless in a regular Lodge, whereof one is to be a Master, or a Warden in that limit, or division, where such Lodge is kept, and another to be a craftsman in the trade of Freemasonry.’ (See Antiquities of Masonry, *Dove’s Masonic Text-Book*, page 26, No. 10.)

“Brother C. W. Moore, in his *Freemason’s Monthly Magazine*, of Dec., 1852, ably sustains the position here assumed by me. He has with him the decisions of many of the most distinguished Grand Lodges of the Union, but I consider the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, on the California difficulties, adopted by the Grand Lodge on the 8th of March, 1853, is on this subject clear to demonstration. I copy from the report :

“At the reorganization in 1717, the meaning of the word *regular* Lodge in the above named regulations, was defined to be a Lodge regularly chartered by the Grand Lodge, on petition to that effect from brethren in regular standing, and with four exceptions of old Lodges then existing, all others were declared irregular, &c. This regulation, special and precise upon all necessary points as it certainly is, would seem to have terminated the practice of making Masons at sight, and such with an exception hereafter to be made, is the practice of the Grand Lodge of England at this day.’

“Other authorities less reliable, leave the matter apparently, but not really in doubt. In a book called *Ahiman Rezon*, written by Lawrence Dermott, Secretary, and afterwards Deputy Grand Master of the illegal Grand Lodge of London, in the middle of the last century, and which was substantially reprinted by the authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in 1781, it is remarked, for it does not seem to be a regulation, that the Grand Master has full power (when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled), to make, or cause to be made in his Worship’s presence, Free and Accepted Masons at sight, and this making is good, but they cannot be made out of his Worship’s presence (that is when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled), without his written dispensation for that purpose, which is also the understanding of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Florida. This important paragraph is not found in the first London edition of that work, but it is said

to be found in the edition of 1772, from which that published by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was probably taken.

"It is unfortunate that some regular Masonic bodies have followed this supposed first edition, in leaving out the important paragraph mentioned, as this has been, in all probability, the main cause of the difficulties under discussion ; and most likely either the apprehension or the actual existence of similar difficulties in England led to its insertion in the edition of 1772. In the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York, published in 1824, we find this regulation, or whatever it may be called, precisely as it appears in the *Ahiman Rezon* of 1772 ; but in their revised regulations of 1832, it is entirely omitted, and the following substituted in its place, viz. :

.. "He (the first Grand Master), may make the Masons at sight, and for this purpose, may summon such brethren as he may deem necessary to assist him.'

"On what authority or precedent this principle is set forth, does not appear, and most certainly so far as the present Grand Lodge of England is concerned, from whom we derive not only our origin, but mostly our Masonic jurisprudence also, she has never, since 1717, recognized any other authority for making Masons at sight than the Grand Lodge duly assembled. Her doctrine seems, then, clearly to be that this privilege does not belong to the Grand Master, and such is the understanding of most of the Grand Lodges of this country.

"It has been said that the Grand Master's privilege to create new Lodges carries with it the privilege claimed of making Masons at sight. The Grand Master has merely the power to legalize for a limited time, by dispensation, the working of new Lodges ; but the power to charter, or to make them permanent, remains in the Grand Lodge alone. But when Masons are made under dispensation, there must be present the regular officers of the Lodge under dispensation, as if chartered, and not an assembly in their individual capacity. In England, where we believe the Grand Master has power to constitute new Lodges, we find no hint of the other power being conveyed thereby, and the privilege of making Masons at will, has, at least so far as the books say, always been kept in the Grand Lodge.

"In corroboration of what has been said, we find that in cases of emergency, such as the initiation of crowned heads or high noblemen, as in 1719, when, according to Entick, several noblemen were made Brothers ; in 1721, when Lord Stanhope was made ; in 1731, when Francis, Duke of Loraine, afterwards Emperor of Germany, was raised, at Houghton, having been previously entered and passed in a special Grand Lodge, held by deputation, at the Hague ; in 1737, when Frederick Prince of Wales was made, and so on down to 1795, when the Duke of Gloucester was made. In all these cases, we do not hear of any such privilege as making Masons on their own authority being exercised or claimed by the Grand Master, or any other Grand Officer.

All was done in Grand Lodge, *occasionally* or regularly assembled, as the case might be ; but *always* in Grand Lodge.

"Again—the fact that up to 1725 it seems to have been the exclusive privilege of the Grand Lodge to confer the degrees of Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and that in November of that year an ordinance was passed giving power to the Master of a Lodge, with his Wardens and a competent number of his Lodge, assembled in due form, to make Masters and Fellows at discretion, and at the same time making no allusion to any such power in the Grand Master, or any other individual. From all this it seems, as has been before said, that this ideal power is not in any way recognized by the Grand Lodge of England. It did not, however, by this concession to the Subordinate Lodges, give up its own power to the same effect, but frequently exercised it in special cases, as has been shown.

"The unhappy dissensions of our New York brethren I shall not comment upon. A Circular was addressed to our Grand Secretary from the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, asking our coöperation in the plan proposed of referring the matter to the two oldest Grand Lodges, Massachusetts and Virginia, and if they could not succeed, to call to their aid any of their sister Grand Lodges. This meets my approbation, and I trust may be successful.

"The Constitution of the Grand Lodge requires the Grand Master to keep a record of all his correspondence, and I herewith hand you all that has passed during the Masonic year, among which will be seen a letter from the agent of the Washington Monument Association, calling upon the Lodges under this jurisdiction, in concert of action with the other Masonic bodies in the United States, to contribute according to their ability towards the accomplishment of this great National undertaking, and soliciting the appointment of suitable Masons in the several districts of this State to act as Trustees, to receive and transmit from time to time such sums as may be contributed by the public spirited members of our Fraternity, towards the completion of this great national design to perpetuate the memory of the FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY, and a distinguished Mason ; in compliance with which, I have appointed Brothers P. G. M. Thomas Douglas, P. G. M. Samuel B. Stephens, P. G. J. W. Walker Anderson, P. G. M. John P. Duval, and P. G. M. J. B. Taylor, to perform this duty, and I fraternally solicit the W. Masters and Wardens of the Lodges under this jurisdiction to use their best efforts to promote the great national object proposed.

"On application from the requisite number of Master Masons to open a Lodge called Jefferson Lodge, at Waukeenah Cross Roads, I granted a dispensation. I was present and dedicated in Ancient Form Jackson Lodge, No. 1, at Tallahassee, on the 22d February, and Hiram Lodge, No. 5, at Monticello, on the 24th June. I granted a dispensation to dedicate a Hall at Tampa, and one to lay the corner-stone of Columbia Lodge, at Alligator ; also a dispensation to hold a procession at Indian Glade, on the 27th December.

"I regret to say it has not been in my power to visit the different Lodges in the State. Domestic affliction and the urgent calls of business, which I could not neglect, have prevented me from doing as I would have wished to do in this regard. I might, in conclusion, speak to you, brethren, of the great objects of our institution, of its charitable designs, of its pure principles, and its just and holy purposes. These have often been the theme of eloquent addresses upon occasions like the present, but it is needless for me now to remind you of your duties, or attempt to describe what has often been so ably done—the beauties, the attractions, the graces, the honors, and the virtues, which cluster around our world-renowned and time-honored name. Suffice it to say our aims are noble, our purposes lofty, and above all our work useful, or at least such it ought to be, if we are really what we pretend, and act up to the high principles of our Order. I congratulate you on the flourishing condition of Masonry throughout the State, and I feel confident that a bright and happy future awaits our beloved Institution in Florida. Let us be wary and cautious in all our measures, prudent in our counsels, and fixed in our resolves for good. Let us keep our circle from the contamination of the unworthy, and let every safeguard and salutary restriction be thrown around our Order. So shall we advance the cause of Masonry in Florida, and so shall its honored name be preserved free from blight and stain among the people."

The committee on Credentials made the following report :

"The committee on Credentials and Returns ask leave to report that they have examined all the returns and credentials which have been submitted to them. The returns from Jackson Lodge, No. 1; Washington Lodge, No. 2; Harmony Lodge, No. 3; Hiram Lodge, No. 5; Euchee-anna Lodge, No. 17; Centreville Lodge, No. 18; Solomon's Lodge, No. 20; Gee Lodge, No. 21; Newport Lodge, No. 23; Concordia Lodge, No. 28; and Jefferson Lodge, U. D.; St. John's Lodge, No. 12; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16; Marion Lodge, No. 19; Naval Lodge, No. 26; and De Soto Lodge, No. 32; and find them correct.

"The returns from the following Lodges are incorrect in the various ways mentioned :

"Madison Lodge is incorrect in not giving the Masonic grade of its members.

"The returns from Alachua Lodge, No. 26, and Suwannee Lodge, No. 30, are incorrect in returning amount of dues from members to the Lodge instead of to the Grand Lodge. The amount received from these Lodges, however, appears to be correct.

"We would recommend that these returns be sent back to the Lodges for correction.

"The return from Micanopy Lodge, No. 29, is incorrect in reporting amount of dues to the Grand Lodge as fifty-five dollars instead of sixty-six dollars, and six initiations during the past year instead of seventeen as shown by the body of the return.

"Your committee have also examined the returns from Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25, and find the amount returned as dues to the Grand Lodge in the recapitulation as correct, but deem the form of the return incorrect, in returning amount of dues from its members to the Lodge, instead of to the Grand Lodge. We would recommend that this return be sent back to the Lodge for correction.

"Your committee would also report that Marion Lodge, No. 19, and De Soto Lodge, No. 32, have, in accordance with the resolution of last Grand Lodge, sent up with their returns the names of non-affiliating brethren within their jurisdiction.

"From the best evidence before your committee those Lodges are the only two that have obeyed the resolution of this Grand Lodge, alluded to.

"Your committee would also beg leave to report that the following named brethren are duly accredited representatives and proxies to this Grand Lodge, to wit :

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1.—J. Wayles Baker.

"From Washington Lodge, No. 2.—Samuel B. Stephens.

"From Harmony Lodge, No. 3.—Benj. G. Alderman, proxy for Worshipful Master.

"From Hiram Lodge, No. 5.—James Ellenwood.

"From Madison Lodge, No. 11.—Charles Russell.

"From Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17.—Jno. L. McKinnon, D. McCranie, Worshipful Master, and proxy for Senior Warden.

"From Centreville Lodge, No. 18.—C. C. Fletcher.

"From Solomon's Lodge, No. 20.—Thomas Douglas, Geo. W. Call, Jr., proxy for Junior Warden.

"From Gee Lodge, No. 21.—Samuel Boardman.

"From Newport Lodge, No. 23.—George Miller, Representative and proxy for Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden.

"From Naval Lodge, No. 24.—John B. Taylor proxy for Worshipful Master.

"From Suwannee Lodge, No. 30.—John Frink.

"From Alachua Lodge, No. 26.—Stephen Fagan, Representative and Worshipful Master.

"From Marion Lodge, No. 19.—David Provence.

"From Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16.—Thos. Brown, Past Grand Master, proxy for Worshipful Master.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"BENJ: G. ALDERMAN, *Chairman.*"

The Grand Master appointed the following committees :

On Accounts—Brothers BOARDMAN, ALDERMAN, and ELLENWOOD.

On Ways and Means—Brothers MCKINNON, DUVAL, and STEPHENS.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers BROWN, BAKER, and BEMBRY.

On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers BAKER, BOARDMAN, and BROWN.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers DUVAL, BROWN, DOUGLAS, J. B. TAYLOR, and STEPHENS.

On Returns and Credentials—Brothers DUVAL, MILLER, and ALDERMAN.

On Visitors—Brothers DAVIDSON, FAGAN, and STEPHENS.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers DOUGLAS, DUVAL, and RUSSELL.

On Education—Brothers RUSSELL, CALL, and JOHN FRINK.

The Grand Secretary made the following report :

"The Grand Secretary begs leave to report that, in obedience to the resolutions of the Grand Lodge, at its last session, he addressed a circular to such of the Subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction as had not responded to the call of the Grand Lodge of California, and has received the following amounts, viz. :

"Gee Lodge, No. 21, \$10; Suwannee, No. 30, \$5; Centreville, No. 18; \$5; Manatee, No. 31, \$5; Dade, No. 14, \$5; Micanopy, No. 29, \$5; Alachua, No. 26, \$5—in all \$40.

"There had previously been received from Marion Lodge, No. 19, \$5; Columbia, No. 27, \$5; Washington, No. 2, \$5; Concordia, No. 29, \$5; Jackson, No. 1, \$5; Hiram, No. 5, \$5; Hillsborough, No. 25, \$5; Newport, No. 23, \$5; Franklin, No. 6, \$5; Eucheeanna, No. 17, \$5; Madison, No. 11, \$5—making in all \$95.

"I have received an application from the requisite number of Master Masons at Palatka, praying a charter, which is submitted to the Grand Lodge.

"I received from Madison Lodge, No. 11, the return for 1852, with the amount of dues, \$45."

Which was received and read.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until ten o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 10, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

"The committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of a number of Master Masons in the County of Putnam, in East Florida, praying a charter to work as a Lodge of Freemasons in the town of Palatka, to be called Palatka Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and although it is true, as stated by Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, at Jacksonville, which Lodge has recommended the application and consented to the establishment of a Lodge at Palatka, that it is not the nearest Lodge in regard to distance, yet it

is the most accessible. The committee are satisfied that in the contemplation of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, it is the *nearest Lodge*, in regard to facility of travel and direct intercourse, and as the applicants are worthy Master Masons, the committee respectfully recommend that the petition be granted.

"The committee further report, that they have had under consideration a letter to them referred, from F. C. Barrett, Senior Warden of Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, at Jacksonville, propounding certain questions of difficulty for the action of the Grand Lodge.

"1st. As it regards the authority or right of a *Past Master* of the Chapter, in the Blue Lodge, the committee answer that in a Symbolic Lodge, no recognition can be taken of Chapter Degrees. The only *Past Masters* known or recognized in a Blue Lodge, are such as have been duly installed, and have actually passed the Chair; and that the Senior Warden *has* the right to preside, in the absence of the Master, if there are *Past Masters* present who are actual *Past Masters* of a Lodge.

"In regard to the second question, 'can a Brother *dimit* except for the purpose of joining another Lodge?' we hold that a member of a Lodge has a right to *dimit* when he pleases, having paid all dues, if there are no charges preferred against him, and that he has a right to apply again for admittance, but cannot be admitted to membership without a ballot.

"To the third question, 'Must a brother who has been duly passed to the F. C. degree be prevented from the privilege of taking the third Degree by the black-ball of a refractory brother, whose subsequent conduct was, or is such, as to cause his expulsion from the Lodge?' we answer that no brother can be advanced to a higher degree without a ballot duly taken, which must be without a *blackball*. But if a black-ball is put in under any improper and unmasonic feeling, and the fact be known, the brother so acting can be dealt with: and a refusal to advance a brother on the first application, does not necessarily deprive him of the right to apply again at a subsequent meeting.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOS. BROWN, *Chairman*."

Which was read and concurred in.

Brother Russell offered the following resolution,

Whereas, The brethren of Alachua Lodge, No. 26, have erected a seminary of learning, the object of which is the education of the sons and daughters of indigent and deceased Master Masons, and to extend the advantages of education generally:—And *Whereas*, Such an enterprise upon the part of our brethren justly merits the approbation and assistance of the Grand Lodge: Be it therefore,

Resolved, That the committee on Education be instructed to confer with Brother Fagan, Worshipful Master of Alachua Lodge, and ascertain what assistance, if any, our brethren of Alachua Lodge may require, and suggest to this Grand Lodge the mode by which they can best obtain the necessary aid.

Which was referred to the committee on Education.

Brother Boardman proposed the following amendment to the resolution offered by Brother H. R. Taylor at the last annual communication, on page 20 of the printed proceedings :

Strike out the words, " and that the names of all members or visitors present, and all who may enter the Lodge after the roll shall have been called, shall be entered on the minutes, giving to each member the initials of his Masonic title, also his grade of office in this Grand Lodge :"

And insert : " And that the names of all visitors, from foreign jurisdictions present, at any time during a meeting of this Grand body, be inserted on the minutes."

Which was read and adopted.

Brother Baker offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the third article of the Constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, be amended by striking out the words " and three Deputy Grand Lecturers" from the list of officers to be appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Which was read, and being a proposition to alter the Constitution, was laid over until the next communication.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws reported, recommending that a charter be granted to Jefferson Lodge, and that the Representatives from said Lodge be invited to seats in the Grand Lodge.

Which was received and concurred in.

The Grand Master exemplified some of the work in the third degree of Masonry.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 10, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor :

Grand Officers present as this morning.

Brother Douglas, chairman of the Library Committee, made the following report :

" The Library Committee, who were some time since charged with the duty of purchasing books for this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they have purchased during the last year several works, amounting to the sum of twenty-four dollars, including the amount of subscriptions for the current year to certain periodicals, as will more fully appear by reference to the account therefor which is herewith rendered, and to which your committee beg leave to refer as a part of

this report. The balance in the hands of the chairman of your committee on the 10th of January, 1853, as will appear by reference to the report of your committee of that date, was \$66 99, from which deduct the amount of the account now rendered, \$24, and the balance still remaining in his hands is \$42 99, which your committee believe will be sufficient to purchase such works of a purely Masonic character as may be published during the present year, some of which are understood to be in the course of publication and copies thereof have been ordered.

"Your committee in their last report mentioned that there were many valuable Masonic works in the German language, some of which it was understood would soon be translated into the English language and published, which would add much to our Masonic literature. Some translations were made during the last year and published in some of the Masonic periodicals ; but none, so far as your committee can learn, in separate volumes. Whether any such will be published during the present year is very uncertain ; should they be, however, it would be desirable to procure copies at an early day, as editions of valuable Masonic works are generally soon exhausted ; some, as Laurie's *History of Freemasonry*, and *Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry*, by Doctor Oliver, are entirely out of print ; and even second hand copies of them cannot be procured. Your committee have had orders out for the last two years without being able as yet to procure them.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOMAS DOUGLAS, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and concurred in.

Bro. Duval, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report :

"Your committee respectfully represent to the Grand Lodge that, in consequence of the settlement of the questions agitated by your committee in former years, by the Grand Lodges of the United States in conformity to the opinions of the Grand Lodge of Florida, with the exception of the question in relation to the powers of the Grand Master, which is now under discussion, they have considered it unnecessary to prepare a report at this communication, more especially as that subject was fully discussed in the report of 1851, and concurred in by this Grand Lodge. In addition, we are happy to state that the able and lucid address of the Grand Master at the present session of the Grand Lodge, has obviated the necessity of a report by this committee on the powers of the Grand Master.

"JOHN P. DUVAL, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and concurred in.

Brother Stephens moved the following :

"Resolved, That having examined the *Masonic Chart, or Carpet*, published by John Sherer, for the use of the Lodges throughout the United States, exhibited by Brother

Randall, of Georgia, we pronounce it an article of great beauty and utility, and most cordially recommend it to all the subordinate Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and we further recommend that the representatives of the different Lodges avail themselves of the present opportunity of supplying their respective Lodges with this essential article."

Which was adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Education made the following report :

"The committee on Education, to whom was referred the resolution relative to Alachua Lodge, No. 26, beg leave to report the following resolution and recommend its passage :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge donate to Alachua Lodge, No. 26, the amount paid by said Lodge as dues the past year.

"THOS. BROWN, *Chairman*."

Which was read and concurred in.

Brother Brown, from the committee on Grand Master's Address, made the following report :

"*Resolved*, That so much of the Address of the M. W. Grand Master, as reviews 'the right of a Grand Master of a Grand Lodge, to make a Mason at sight,' and so much thereof as refers to the 'differences existing among the Fraternity in the State of New York'—and also the correspondence of the M. W. Grand Master referred to in his address, be referred to a special committee, with instructions to examine the same, and report their views in the form of resolutions, so that the action of this Grand Lodge may be had directly thereon."

"The special committee appointed under the foregoing resolution, have performed the duty assigned them, and beg to report the following resolutions :

"1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master of a Grand Lodge possesses delegated powers only, and as the power to initiate, pass, and raise, are not delegated to a Grand Master to be exercised at will, he can confer those degrees only in a subordinate Lodge, and in accordance with Masonic law and usage.

"2. *Resolved*, That in regard to the difficulties existing among the Fraternity in the State of New York, the committee submit the resolutions recommended by Brother Joseph Foster, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, which are in these words :

"1. That the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Virginia are hereby fraternally solicited each to appoint a committee on behalf of the Grand Lodges of the United States to examine and adjust all differences existing among the Fraternity in the State of New York, and the Grand Lodge of New York is hereby fraternally requested to submit the entire difficulties of that jurisdiction to the aforesaid committee, so far as the same is connected with Ancient Craft Masonry; that all parties interested be per-

mitted and required to lay their grievances before the said committee, that they may be finally and forever healed.

“ 2. Should the aforesaid committee of Massachusetts and Virginia be unable to adjust the differences thus submitted to them, they are hereby empowered to call to their assistance an equal number of brethren from any other Grand Lodge of the Union.’

“ In regard to the correspondence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, upon all the subjects brought to his attention, we find it in accordance with the true Masonic spirit, and sustained by true Masonic principles.

“ The committee cannot close this short report without proposing a tender of thanks of this Grand Lodge, to our highly esteemed Grand Master, for the able, impressive, and truly Masonic address, which will add great value to the proceedings of this Grand annual communication.

“ THOMAS BROWN, *Chairman.*”

Which was read and concurred in.

Brother Boardman offered the following preamble and resolution :

“ *Whereas*, The Grand Lodge of New York has passed certain resolutions and recommended the adoption of similar resolutions by her sister Grand Lodges in the United States of America: *And whereas*, The plan suggested by the Grand Lodge of New York, of a general confederation of Grand Lodges, meets the entire concurrence of this Grand Lodge : Therefore be it

“ *Resolved*, That from and after the adoption of similar resolutions by two-thirds of the Grand Lodges of the United States, this Grand Lodge pledges itself that in all matters of difficulty which may hereafter arise in this Grand body, or between this and any other or more Grand bodies of the same Order, which cannot by their own action be satisfactorily adjusted or disposed of, shall, if the importance of the case or the general welfare of the Fraternity demand it, be submitted, with accompanying evidence and documents, to the several Grand Lodges in their individual capacities, and the concurrent decision thereon of two-thirds of the whole number, officially communicated, shall be held authoritative, binding, and final on all parties concerned.”

Which were adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY; January 11th, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following brothers were declared duly elected :

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL BOARDMAN, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. JAMES ELLENWOOD, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. R. A. SHINE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.

R. REV. WILLIAM CHOICE, Grand Chaplain.

Brothers Stephens, Russell, Michau, and Jeffcont, were excused from further attendance.

Brother Randall, of Marietta, Ga., exemplified the work in the Fellow Craft's degree.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until ten o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, January 12th, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 12th, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

P. G. M. John P. Duval took the East and installed Brother Thomas Hayward as Grand Master, who installed the other officers.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

R. W. C. A. M. MITCHELL, Deputy Grand Lecturer, Eastern District.

R. W. M. WHIT SMITH, Deputy Grand Lecturer, Southern District.

R. W. D. W. McCRAINE, Deputy Grand Master, Western District.

W. J. H. VERDIER, Grand Orator.

W. S. B. STEPHENS, Grand Lecturer.

W. B. G. ALDERMAN, Grand Pursuivant.

W. GEORGE MILLER, Grand Sword-Bearer.

W. CHARLES RUSSELL, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. R. S. LANG, Grand Junior Deacon.

W. J. F. DEWITT, Grand Senior Steward.

W. JOHN FRINK, Grand Junior Steward.

Brother A. H. LINDSAY, Grand Tyler.

On motion,

"Resolved, That a select committee of three be appointed to draw up a form of installation of Grand Officers for the use of this Grand Lodge, and to report the same at the next Grand annual communication."

Brothers Verdier, Duval, and Shine, were appointed said committee.

The committee on Accounts made the following report :

"The committee on Accounts beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge. They find that there was in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, on the 15th January, 1853, \$190 16; he has since received from the Grand Secretary the sum of \$591 40, making a total of \$781 56. He presents proper vouchers for an expenditure of \$687 50. The amount of his commissions due are \$39 70, making amount expended \$781 56, leaving a balance in the hands of the

Grand Treasurer of \$54 36. The Grand Secretary has received since last communication, for charters and dues, the sum of \$95. He has paid for printing and a table, the sum of \$30, leaving in his hands the sum of \$65. He has received during this communication the sum of \$946, making the amount on hand \$1,011. The whole amount in the hands of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, is \$1,065 36.

"The Grand Lodge has made the following appropriations :

"To Alachua Lodge, No. 26, \$81, being amount of dues from that Lodge for 1853 ; to Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17, \$61, dues for same year ; for a Master's Carpet, \$15 ; total, \$157.

"Your committee recommend the payment by this Grand Lodge of the following claims, viz. :

"Grand Secretary, for Salary.....	\$200 00
" " for postage and stationery.....	40 00
"Assistant Secretary, for services during this communication.....	20 00
"Grand Tyler, for services, wood and candles.....	35 00
"Payment of Representatives, as per vouchers and abstract.....	192 20
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"Making total recommended to be paid.....	\$487 20
"Amounts already appropriated.....	157 00
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"Making total amount.....	\$644 20

"The above amounts deducted from amount on hand, would leave the sum of \$421 16 in the Treasury of the Grand Lodge. Out of this amount will have to be paid the expense of printing our proceedings, leaving but a small balance to appropriate to the payment of the loan to Washington Lodge, No. 2, which this Grand Lodge has pledged itself to make.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"SAML. BOARDMAN,

"BENJ. G. ALDERMAN."

Which was received and concurred in.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM.

THOS. HAYWARD, *Grand Master.*

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 8, 1855.

M. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Master*.

The most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 8th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Master*.
R. W. M. WHIT SMITH, as *Grand Senior Warden*.
R. W. D. W. McCRANIE, as *Grand Junior Warden*.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.
R. W. R. A. SHINE, *Grand Treasurer*.
W. JOHN G. PARK, as *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. H. J. STEWART, as *Grand Junior Deacon*.
Brother M. BRAY, *Grand Tyler*.

P. G. M. THOMAS DOUGLAS, with a due representation of Lodges, members, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM and with prayer.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing, who are members of subordinate Lodges, be respectfully invited to attend the meetings of the Grand Lodge, at its present communication.

The committee on Credentials and Returns made the following report:

"The committee on Credentials and Returns beg leave respectfully to report that they have performed the duty assigned them, and find the following named Lodges correct, viz.: Jackson Lodge, No. 1, Harmony Lodge, No. 3, Hiram Lodge, No. 5, Franklin Lodge, No. 6, St. John's Lodge, No. 12, Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, Madison Lodge, No. 11, Newport Lodge, No. 23, and Columbia Lodge, No. 27 (for the years 1853. and 1854), Micanopy Lodge, No. 29, and Concordia Lodge, No. 28.

"The returns from the following named Lodges are correct, with the exception of an informality which consists in not giving the names of persons reported as *rejected*, viz.: Jefferson Lodge, No. 33, Hamilton Lodge, No. 22 (for the years 1853 and 1854), and Centreville Lodge, No. 18.

"The returns from Suwannee Shoal Lodge, No. 30, are informal in not giving the date of initiation of five persons for whom dues are returned to the Grand Lodge.

"The returns from Naval Lodge, No. 24 are informal in not giving the names of seven persons reported rejected, and failing to report the Grand Lodge dues of two officers of the Lodge who are not exempt from such payment.

"The returns from Alachua Lodge, No. 26, are incorrect in returning sundry members as having died during the year, without the amount of dues to the Grand Lodge for their membership being returned. Also in not giving the names of persons rejected.

"The returns from Monroe Lodge, No. 19, are incorrect in not returning dues to the Grand Lodge for eleven members who have been stricken from the roll during the year for non-payment of dues.

"Your committee have also examined the proceedings attendant upon a dedication of a Masonic Hall for Columbia Lodge, No. 27, at Alligator, on the 24th June last, and find that the requisite requirements were complied with by a Grand Lodge convened for the purpose, by Brother M. Whit Smith, under a dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master.

"Your committee have to report that but a small portion of the Lodges have complied with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, with regard to returning the names of non-affiliating Masons within their respective jurisdictions.

"Your committee also beg leave to report that the following named brethren are duly accredited representatives and proxies to the Grand Lodge, to wit:

"From Jackson Lodge, No. 1.—David S. Walker.

"From Washington Lodge, No. 2.—S. B. Stephens.

"From Harmony Lodge, No. 3.—John M. F. Erwin.

"From Madison Lodge, No. 11.—James L. Moseley.

"From Hiram Lodge, No. 5.—H. H. Berry.

"From Centreville Lodge, No. 18.—C. C. Fletcher.

"From Suwannee Shoal Lodge, No. 30.—John G. Smith.

"From Hamilton Lodge, No. 22.—A. G. Johnson.

"From Columbia Lodge, No. 37.—Edward R. Ives, representative and proxy for Worshipful Master and Junior Warden.

"From St. John's Lodge, No. 12.—E. J. Dummett, Wm. A. Forward proxy for Worshipful Master.

"From Micanopy Lodge, No. 29.—M. Whit Smith, proxy for Worshipful Master.

"From Solomon's Lodge, No. 20.—F. C. Barrett; H. R. Sadler, proxy for Junior Warden.

"From Newport Lodge, No. 23.—John G. Park, representative and proxy for Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden.

"From Franklin Lodge, No. 6.—J. S. May; T. J. Eppes, proxy for Junior Warden.

"From Marion Lodge, No. 19.—W. S. Harris.

"From Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16.—B. W. Thompson; Thomas Brown, Past Grand Master, proxy for Worshipful Master.

"From Naval Lodge, No. 24.—D. W. McCranie, proxy for Worshipful Master.

"From Concordia Lodge, No. 28.—J. W. Johnston.

"From Alachua Lodge, No. 27.—J. T. Bernard, representative and proxy for Senior Warden and Junior Warden.

"From Washington Lodge, No. 2, and Gee Lodge, No. 21.—Gasper Smart, Junior Warden, and Worshipful Master.

"All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,"

"F. C. BARRETT, *Chairman.*"

Which was read and adopted.

The Craft were called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock P. M.

MONDAY, January 8, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present in the forenoon.

The Grand Master, Thomas Hayward, delivered the following address :

"MY BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :—Again the wise and sovereign Arbiter of the universe has vouchsafed to us the pleasure of meeting and coming together as brethren, bound together by the most sacred ties, and animated by the most holy purposes. The occasion is one which peculiarly demands the expression of our gratitude to the Author of all good, and the just Dispenser of every blessing, for His merciful providence and care, during the season through we have just passed.

"As men, as individuals, as Masons, it becomes us to unite our voices in His praise, whose Almighty power and transcendent goodness have sustained, upheld, supported, and strengthened us, amidst the varying scenes, and manifold vicissitudes, which have marked the time that has flown since our last meeting. If we cast our eyes to foreign lands, and observe the tumult and disorder that reign there, upturning the very foundations of society, and destroying the very peace and quiet of social life, how potent the reason, and how strong the motive which should impel us here to acknowledge, with hearts full of joy and gladness, our grateful sense of the kind mercy that has preserved

us, free from such disorganizing and afflicting elements. Again, how strong the contrast, when we bring in review before us our condition as a nation, with that of many of the old world ; people arrayed against people, desolating wars inflicting their terrible scourge upon some of the fairest portions of God's creation, while man, who was made after the image of his Maker, is made to feel the iron hand, and bow before the crushing car of a withering and debasing despotism.

"Look again upon our own most highly favored land. Survey it in all its parts. Behold its glories and its magnificence. See its abundance, teeming up from the rich and bounteous soil in every latitude of our wide domain. Mark how social and domestic happiness, how contentment, quiet and plenty, are seen, and felt, and known, in every section ; how pleasantly, in a word, each and every man can sit down under his own vine and fig-tree, and sing the merry songs of peace to all his neighbors. And yet amidst all this bright and beauteous prospect, the destroyer's path can be traced. With all this overflowing happiness, and with all these multiplied sources of enjoyment, there is blended the picture of war and desolation. Though nature smiles, though earth has yielded her products to the toil and industry of man, though blossom and bud, and flower have, as usual, put forth to deck and variegate the scene, you will find that the mantle of death has been spread in many a lonely cottage ; that gloom and sadness are depicted upon many a countenance, and that the hearts of multitudes have been stricken with grief and sorrow. The pestilence has stalked abroad over the land, and has swept away thousands of victims, whose loss to all that is bright and beautiful, and lovely on earth, has made the homes of the rich and the poor, the high and the lowly, alike desolate and forsaken. Such is the lot of humanity, and such, too, are the doings of a wise and inscrutable Providence.

"It is not for man, the creature of His hands, to complain. Some of our brethren, high and distinguished in the places which once knew them, but shall now know them no more forever, have fallen ; and among them it is my most painful duty to announce to you the death of three most valuable and useful members. The first in Masonic standing is P. G. M. JOHN P. DUVAL, the first G. M. of this Grand Lodge. You who have been in attendance on this Grand Lodge for many years know his value—he was always with us. His loss will be sorely felt. He has perhaps done as much or more for Masonry in Florida than any man in it. Jackson Lodge followed his remains to his final resting-place and disposed of them until the meeting of this Grand Lodge should take place, and that respect paid to his memory which his services so justly merited. The next is the W. M. of Centreville Lodge, and a P. G. officer of this Grand Lodge, whose funeral I attended in person, and performed the last sad rite with a large number of brethren and many mourning relatives and friends. Bro. J. P. Townsend, J. W. of Jackson Lodge, who died while on a visit to the North, and

was attended and cared for in his last illness, and buried with Masonic honors. These three estimable brethren of this Grand body, were with us at our last communication, and aided us in our deliberations with their counsel and advice.

"Here, in this our abiding place, in this sunny land with all our other blessings, the contemplation of this our greatest blessing, exemption from pestilence, from the ravages of disease, and from the destructive march of the fell destroyer, I repeat, should be to us at this moment, and after such a season of unparalleled distress and suffering, the occasion not only of joy, of gratulation and praise, but of humble acknowledgments, of sincere thankfulness, and of devout feelings, mingled with sympathy for those who have suffered, and with prayers to the Giver of all good, that He may stay and comfort them in the day of their sore affliction.

"During the past year I have visited Waukeena Lodge, and installed their officers. I have granted the following dispensations: To install the officers of De Soto and Palatka Lodge, and dispensation to the brethren of Alachua Lodge to celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, and a dispensation to dedicate the Masonic Hall at Alligator. I also granted a dispensation to the brethren of Eucheeanna Lodge to lay the corner-stone of their Masonic edifice, on the 27th of December, and I granted a dispensation to the brethren of Micanopy Lodge to celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. I have visited Hiram Lodge, Solomon's Lodge, Palatka Lodge, Centreville Lodge, Newport Lodge, Concordia Lodge, and Jackson Lodge, and on the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist I dedicated Washington Lodge. I regret I could not visit all the Lodges in the State, but at the time when I could be spared from my usual avocations, the weather was so intensely hot, and the exposure so great, that I could not do more than I have done. In this visitation I found much zeal among the brethren; all seemed prosperous and doing well, but I rarely found any two Lodges working alike, and I would recommend this Grand Lodge, before it closes its deliberations, to have the work exemplified, and insist on their subordinates practicing that work and no other; and I would also earnestly recommend some stringent resolutions to be passed by this Grand body, making it obligatory on the subordinate Lodges to enforce the moral law among its members, and intemperate, profane, and unmasonic acts not be permitted, but promptly dealt with as they deserve. I have contracted for a stone for the Washington Monument, as directed at our last communication, and ordered this simple inscription, 'Presented by the Grand Lodge of Florida.' I directed a draft for the amount of 75 dollars to be drawn on the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, and I promised it should be paid on presentation. I have also a letter of thanks from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California acknowledging the receipt of ninety-five dollars, which the subordinate Lodges handed to our worthy Grand

Secretary to be sent to California to aid our distressed brethren in that region.

"It might be deemed inappropriate to the occasion, and uncalled for by the nature, character, and design of the office, one of the duties of which I am now discharging, to address you upon those topics, and in relation to those matters which constitute the themes of others who are solicited to speak both before you and the public, upon the grand design, the purposes and objects, the beauties and benefits of Masonry.

"Its origin, its foundation, its precepts, its example; the virtues which it enjoins, the vices which it condemns, in short, its works and its practices are before the world; and in all time, whatsoever Masonry teaches, has received the sanction and approbation of the wise and good.

"The most enlightened men, the purest patriots, the most illustrious statesmen, have been and are members of the Order, and if Masonry had nothing else to commend itself to the approval of the just and virtuous, the names that have shone bright in her annals as benefactors of our race, would alone afford a sufficient guarantee that it is, at least, innocent in its character, and teaches nothing which can tend to the moral degradation of man.

"These things it is altogether unnecessary for me to tell you, and it is equally useless to speak to you in reference to those objects at which Masonry aims—those duties it inculcates, those moral sentiments it inspires, or those virtuous practices it enjoins—you know them all, and you, too, are presumed with that knowledge, to be solicitous that an institution which has lived so long, and which has been so widely spread, should continue to live and flourish as it has heretofore done, with its energies and capacities for good unimpaired, and with its actual beneficent operations unshackled and undiminished.

"If here at home and elsewhere Masonry is in a flourishing condition, how shall we act, that it may still flourish and prosper? I answer, we should in all respects *deport ourselves as Masons*. In this simple sentence is comprised our whole, our entire duty. If Masonry teaches a sublime system of morality: if, indeed, the institution can justly lay claim to the high character which has been awarded it by the sense of mankind, then we should study to preserve that character in the spotless purity which alone can give it a just passport to public approbation. This can be done by diligence in your high calling, by care and vigilance in respect to all things which might have a tendency to leave a blot or blemish upon the fair escutcheon of your honored name. If your precepts teach those virtues which constitute the sum total of sound morality, let your example shine forth a brilliant light to illuminate, to guide, and instruct. Precept, enforced by example, is the most powerful instructor of mankind, and is, at the same time, the most efficient rebuke to offenders against the laws of God and man. Keep yourselves unspotted from the world, and in order to do this effectually,

you must be careful to admit no one to your privileges as a brother, whose whole life and character do not furnish abundant evidence that he will indeed prove a worthy brother, fitted for the noble calling and the lofty and elevating duties of the race that is before him—you may indeed otherwise increase your numbers, but you would not enhance your weight of character, your usefulness, or your respectability. These are of far greater importance, than any seeming augmentation of your influence, from an accession of numerical strength.

“No institution, however humane and beneficial in its character, abstractly considered, can practically and absolutely in its operation upon the best interests, upon the welfare and happiness of the human family, be productive of such beneficial results, if among its members may be found the idle, the dissolute, the profane. These will inevitably, to a greater or less extent, bring disgrace upon the body, and cripple, if not destroy its efforts and its energies for all the ameliorating influences for which it may have been established.

“It behooves you, then, as wise and discreet brethren, sedulous alike for the purity of your sacred altars, and for the preservation of your ancient honor, your character and your usefulness, to exclude, so far as in you lies, all such from communion and fellowship with you.

“Enthusiasm in all that will advance your true interest, and rigid discipline in enforcing the obligations of our Fraternity, will be the sure means not only of animating and invigorating your body, but of protecting and vindicating your character before the world. Thus will you best contribute to the exaltation of an institution that has spread far and wide its blessings; which has grown up and flourished, and prospered through good and evil report; which has alike, amidst sunshine and storm, pursued the even tenor of its way, equally regardless of the frowns of tyranny and the mad and senseless ravings of infuriated mobs.”

Bro. Thomas Douglas, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

“To the *M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida* :

“Your committee on Foreign Correspondence most respectfully report that they have had before them the proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, viz. : Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, District of Columbia, North Carolina, Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Iowa, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Minnesota, Canada West, and Delaware.

“From Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maryland, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Missouri, and Canada

East, no report of proceedings for the past year was received by our Grand Secretary.

"Those before them they have examined, so far as their time would permit, and the pleasure afforded by that examination causes them to regret that it could not have been more full, and that they cannot take of it, in this report, a more extended notice. Many questions of great importance to the Craft have been noticed in them, and discussed generally with great ability, and where differences of opinion existed, with that candor and courtesy which should always distinguish the conduct of Masons, not only amongst themselves but towards all mankind. From the casual observation that your committee have been enabled to give to these documents, they have found enough to show that much gratitude is due to the Grand Master of the Universe for the manifold blessings of peace and prosperity which almost everywhere attend our Order. Except in the State of New York, no discordant note breaks in to disturb the general harmony, and the influence of the principles it teaches are seen and felt wherever civilization, humanity, and science prevail.

"Your committee are relieved from an examination of most of the important questions above referred to, by the fact that they were fully discussed in and settled (so far as this Grand Lodge is concerned) by the report of its committee on Foreign Correspondence of 1851, which was adopted in 1852, and by the M. W. Grand Master in his address to the Grand Lodge at its last annual communication. In the views expressed by each, your committee most fully concur.

INDIANA.

"The committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, for 1852, took notice of the report of the committee of Correspondence of this Grand Lodge for 1851, and had the courtesy to say :

"The most remarkable thing about it, is its great length. We shall content ourselves with noticing only a few of the many subjects upon which the report treats. Under the head of "dispensations," the committee remark : "It is the province of the Grand Master to issue dispensations in the recess of the Grand Lodge, which remain valid until the succeeding communication of the Grand Lodge, at which time the dispensation may be for good cause continued until the next annual communication, or a charter may issue by the Grand Lodge : but the issuing of a dispensation by the Grand Lodge is unprecedented as far as the information of your committee extends."

"Upon this extract,' say the Indiana committee, 'we would simply remark that their Masonic information does not extend very far. The Grand Lodge of Indiana has been in the habit of issuing dispensations so long that *the memory of man runneth not to the contrary*. We notice that a great portion of our sister Grand Lodges have acted in the same manner.' It may be that they have so acted ; but it is a point we do

not deem of sufficient importance to take the trouble to examine. The knowledge of the Indiana committee on that point may be reliable, but their memory seems not to run very far back. One of the present members of this committee represented Union Lodge, No. 29 (now No. 2), of Madison, Indiana, in the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in 1816, a matter which he recollects with pride and pleasure; and surely the Grand Lodge of Indiana did not then issue dispensations, for it was not organized until the 12th day of January, 1818.

“The same Indiana committee say they are in the receipt of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, for 1852. ‘M. W. Thomas Douglas, Grand Master, delivered an address which is more remarkable for its *extraordinary length*, than any thing else.’ Why that committee should complain so much of the length of these documents, unless they considered them ineffably stupid, we are at a loss to determine. The report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Alabama for 1853, and that of the New York committee for 1854, are both considerably longer, and yet we see no cause to complain of either on that account. Our information may ‘*not extend very far*’ on this subject, but we believe this Indiana committee has the honor of being the first to complain of such a report or address, merely on account of its length. Others have seen merits in both. Were we to copy one half of the commendations which other committees of Correspondence and editors of Masonic periodicals have done us the honor to bestow upon them, it would make this report much longer than both. But we are not disposed to quarrel with our Indiana brethren who composed that committee, because they could see no merits in either. We are well aware that there are many true-hearted, honest men, who could see no more merit in the best paintings of a Titan, a Raphael, or a Michael Angelo, than in the most paltry daubings upon a country sign-board.

“‘Our brethren of Florida,’ say this Indiana committee, ‘seem to entertain very singular opinions with regard to Lodges under dispensation. Grand Master Douglas says, “a difference of opinion exists among very intelligent Masons as to Lodges under dispensation. My view of this matter is, that a dispensation is of itself a setting aside of the law, and an exception to the general principle; it must therefore be construed *literally*. What is not granted in express terms is not granted at all. A Lodge under dispensation is simply a creature of the Grand Master; it cannot make by-laws, it cannot elect officers, it cannot elect members. Brethren made in a Lodge while under dispensation, have not the right to vote in said Lodge, until regularly admitted to membership therein; and this can only be done after the Lodge has been chartered and constituted by the Grand Lodge.” Upon this extract [say that Committee], we will make no further remark than to say that, with the exception of the election of officers, every opinion is erroneous.’ If ‘*brevity is the soul of wit*,’ this is certainly

very witty. But it did not satisfy the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. Their committee on Foreign Correspondence of Jan., A. L. 5853, copy the foregoing, and say : ' We regret that our brethren of Indiana did not deem it proper to make some further remark in support of their opinion so positively expressed, or at least referred by way of note to some authorities to sustain them. This Grand Lodge, as well as the Grand Lodge of Florida, would doubtless be pleased to be enlightened by our brethren of Indiana. Our opinions and practice coincide with those of the Grand Lodge of Florida, with the exception that we allow Lodges U. D. to make by-laws subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge ; and our Grand Lodge grants dispensations as well as the Grand Master. We think our brethren in Indiana are in error themselves, but would be glad to hear their reasons, and see their authorities in their next report.' In reply to this, the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, in their report in May, 1853, come out with their reasons, but not with their authorities. They say : ' In the statement of Brother Douglas there are four assertions :

“ 1 A Lodge U. D. is a creature of the Grand Master.

“ 2. It cannot make by-laws.

“ 3. It cannot elect officers.

“ 4. It cannot admit to membership any brother.

“ The 1st, 2d, and 4th, your committee think are erroneous, and from the latter clause of the remarks of the Mississippi committee, they admit that the 1st and 2d are erroneous, according to their opinion and practice. This, then, leaves the 4th as the only difference of opinion, viz. : can a Lodge U. D. admit to membership any brother ? We think they can. The ancient constitution expressly provides that every Mason must be a member of a Lodge ; and this is obligatory on all Masons, at all times, when practicable. But suppose a Lodge is at work U. D., at a great distance from a chartered Lodge. The eight brethren immediately after receiving a dispensation, confer the three degrees on a worthy applicant. He searches the ancient constitutions of the Order, and finds that it is his imperative duty to be a member of a Lodge and desires to unite himself with the Lodge U. D. where he was made. But, say our Mississippi brethren, you cannot join this Lodge. You can only attach yourself to the nearest chartered Lodge, which may be a hundred miles away, which is an unreasonable requirement, and whatever is unreasonable is no part of Masonry. Suppose again, that a wholesome regulation is carried out, which prevents non-affiliating brethren from visiting a Lodge more than twice or thrice until he is affiliated ; and as before, suppose a brother is made in a remote Lodge U. D. ; after visiting the Lodge thrice in which he received the degrees, he is told we cannot receive you as a visiting brother again until you attach yourself to the nearest chartered Lodge. This would be injustice—and injustice is no part of Masonry.' These are the reasons given—

no authorities are cited—and with all due deference to the Indiana committee, we are constrained to say they are no reasons at all. The ancient constitutions, to be sure, do provide that every Mason ought to be a member of some Lodge, and be subject to its by-laws and the general regulations. Anderson's *Constitutions* (Ed. 1723), page 51. This is one regulation. But, there is another which applies directly to the case supposed, and is to be construed in *pari materia* with it, viz. : 'No set or number of brethren shall withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they were *made brethren* or were *afterwards* admitted as members, unless the Lodge becomes too numerous ; nor then, without a dispensation from the *Grand Master* or his *Deputy*. Anderson's *Constitutions*, Sec. 8, page 60. Those brethren, therefore, having been *made brethren* in a Lodge U. D. have no right to withdraw from it, but are bound to remain in it, subject to the ancient rules and regulations, by which (says Brother Mackey, one of the most, if not the most learned Mason of America), a Lodge U. D. is governed during its temporary existence (*Masonic Miscellany*, Vol. 1, page 178), until a charter is obtained for, and said Lodge is duly constituted. This is the general rule, and the practice has, it is believed, been in accordance with it ever since Lodges U. D. were held ; and besides no rule or regulation of Masonry requires a brother to go an *unreasonable* distance to join a Lodge, or attend to business in it. Every brother knows or should know, the '*length*' he is required to go for such purposes. Masonry is a reasonable science, and when the carrying out of any general rule would work injustice, will make an exception to it.

"Then as to some of the other questions raised. Dr. Oliver, of England, perhaps the most learned Mason of any age or country, in his *Dictionary of Symbolic Masonry*, says : 'A dispensation is an instrument which legalizes an act or ceremony, such as opening a Lodge without a warrant. The power of granting dispensations is very properly vested in the Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Masters, or their Deputies. Brother John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in his *Masonic Text-Book*, page 278, says : 'Charters for forming new Lodges can only be granted by the brethren assembled in Grand annual communication ;' and at page 279 : 'The Grand Master, or in his absence out of the State, the Deputy Grand Master may grant a dispensation for forming a new Lodge, to continue in force until the next Grand communication.'

"Brother Mackey, in his *Masonic Lexicon*, says : 'The power of granting dispensations, is confided to the Grand Master.' In his *Masonic Miscellany*, Vol. 1, page 173, he says : 'A Lodge under dispensation is *simply the creature* of the Grand Master.' 'Dispensations,' says Brother C. W. Moore, in his *Masonic Magazine*, Vol. 7, page 34 ; Vol. 8, pages 355 and 356, 'are usually granted by the Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge, on the petition of not less than seven Master Masons ; they authorize the petitioners to "form and open a

Lodge after the manner of Free and Accepted Masons." This we conceive to be the full extent of the powers delegated, or which can be legally exercised by Lodges working under dispensation. They are Lodges "in abeyance, and *not in reality*." The members of them are themselves working "*after the manner*" of a Lodge, and not in the full capacity of a Lodge of Freemasons. The brethren made in a Lodge working under dispensation, have not the right to vote in it, until they are regularly admitted to membership therein, and this can only be done after the Lodge has been chartered and constituted by the Grand Lodge.' *Freemason's Magazine*, Vol. 7, page 227; Vol. 8, pages 395 and 396; Vol. 9, page 200. Brother A. G. Mackey, editor of the *Masonic Miscellany*, fully sustains Brother Douglas. Indeed, his statement, so cavalierly treated by the Indiana committee, was taken almost literally from the 173d and 174th pages of the first volume of the *Miscellany*. In Vol. 3, page 62, he says: 'Lodges under dispensation are only in the incipient stage of forming a Lodge.' Many of the Grand Lodges hold similar opinions to those of Brothers C. W. Moore and A. G. Mackey. Those of Brother Douglas, therefore, are *not singular*.

"A few words more in regard to the power of Lodges working under dispensation, and we have done. The Indiana committee admit that to '*confer degrees*, is the only thing specified in a dispensation which they are authorized to do.' Where, then, we would respectfully ask, do they get their power to do more? Not from the ancient constitutions or general regulations; they are silent on the subject. Your committee in such cases, in construing a grant of Masonic power, deem it most safe to resort to that law which one of the most eminent Judges and learned jurists and statesmen, said was 'founded in reason, and had been improved by the experience of ages;' and it declares that when a special authority is conferred, it must be *strictly* pursued; and that no power can be exercised under it, but those which are specially granted, and see 2 *Kent's Commentaries*, 481, 486. Judge Story, in his learned work on Agency, Section 17th, page 29, shows very clearly the distinction between a grant of general and special authority, and that the latter is *confined to the specific powers* granted. And in his *Commentaries* on the constitution of the United States, Vol. 3, page 114, he says: 'Whenever a question arises concerning the constitutionality of a particular power, the first question is, whether the power be *expressed* in the constitution. If it be, the question is decided. If it be *not expressed*, the next inquiry must be, whether it is properly incident to an express power and necessary to its execution. If it be, then it may be exercised. If *not*, Congress cannot exercise it. This is a well settled rule of the common law.' See the authorities cited in note to page 114, Vol. 3, of *Story's Commentaries* on the constitution.

"Domat, in his celebrated work on the civil law, Vol. 1, page 60, says: 'We must consider the laws which admit of exceptions as gen-

eral laws, which regulate everything that commonly happens ; and the laws which make the exceptions and *dispensations*, as *particular laws*, which are *peculiar to certain cases*.' Unless, therefore, it can be shown that the several powers claimed, other than those granted, are incident and necessary to the power granted to initiate, pass, and raise Masons, we do not see how, upon these principles, their assumption can be sustained.

" We are aware that the *Masonic Review*, the *Signet*, and some of the Grand Lodges of the United States, take a different view of the matter ; but so long as we are sustained by Brothers C. W. Moore, Mackey, some of the Grand Lodges, and the principles of the common and civil law, we feel justified in adhering to the views of our late Most Worshipful Grand Master. We would not be misunderstood. Our position is, that a Lodge under dispensation, can exercise no power that is not expressly conferred, or necessary to carry into effect such express power, and that, therefore, where, as in Indiana, the dispensation only authorizes those to whom it is granted to meet, after the manner of Free and Accepted Masons, and initiate, pass, and raise Masons, this is all that they can rightfully do. We admit, that where, as in New York, the dispensation expressly gives them power to make Masons, admit members, and form a code of by-laws, they may do so. The only question in such a case, is as to the expediency of granting these extra and (we believe until lately, if not now), unusual powers.

" 'When we see,' says Brother Downey, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, 'a subordinate Lodge become degenerated, and its members consisting mostly of the less acceptable of the Fraternity, we are apt to inquire why it is so. One grand reason, in my opinion, is the unnecessary withdrawal of the better part of its members. One or more members of a Lodge become refractory, or some trifling difference arises among the members. Instead of endeavoring to settle it, or to correct the mischief, whatever it may be, the better members withdraw from the Lodge, and this is repeated until the Lodge is composed of these only who never should have been in it, or who should have been long since expelled from it. When a Lodge gets in this condition, the only effectual remedy is to arrest its charter and terminate its existence. *But members of a Lodge should not withdraw for such reasons*,' and so say your committee. Rather let them put their hands to the plow, and cleanse the Augean stables.

NEW YORK.

" The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for 1852, also took notice of Grand Master Douglas' address. They say that it is lengthy and learned—contains many wise thoughts, valuable suggestions, and correct opinions, but insist that he errs in regard to Lodges U. D., and take him severely to task for referring to Lawrence Dermott as an accomplished Mason,

in the following terms : ' Brother Douglas quotes Lawrence Dermott as " an accomplished Mason," of the last century, in support of his views. Dermott is a writer of no authority. He belonged to a spurious Grand Lodge, and does not in the quotation made, or elsewhere, sustain the views of the three able individuals whose opinions have been cited on this question ; but if he did, he is so far from being " an accomplished Mason," that he was, in his lifetime, only regarded as an adventurer who emigrated from Dublin to London (after being made in Dublin), in order to better his portionless fortune and gain notoriety. The first he did not effect ; the latter he did fully accomplish, at the expense, however, of the peace of English Fraternity for forty-one years (from 1772 to 1813), and at the cost of being universally looked upon as an interloper among English Masons. He was the greatest Masonic impostor of his own time, and has been the cause of more evil to the Craft in the United States than any other British Mason whatever. Besides, Dermott's book is a mere patch-work. There is nothing original in it but falsehoods. This may be deemed harsh language, especially of the dead, but every word is true. He died unrepentant of the evils he had caused, and the slanders and falsehoods he had uttered, and under an expulsion of the Grand Lodge of England ; which expulsion was never removed, so that we are at liberty to speak of him as we think, and as the truth requires. He introduced the fallacy of Past Masters having seats as honorary members, by courtesy, in the Grand Lodge, and gave them a right to speak and make motions, and finally a right to vote, in order to keep up the number of his meetings, and finally remodeled and greatly changed the written constitution.

" ' All this he pretended to have received from the Grand Lodge at York, which ceased to work in 1787, gave up its existence in 1788, and deceived by his pretensions, solemnly made over its powers to him, confirming his Grand Lodge constitution without knowing what it contained. He succeeded in deceiving the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and induced them to enter into written correspondence with him. He got a Scotch nobleman, then in Parliament as one of the Scotch Peers, the Duke of Athol, to take the office of Grand Master and continued it in the family, descending as the Dukedom descended, for he got no English nobleman to accept the honor, although he tendered it to several who indignantly refused. He introduced the Royal Arch into Ireland by conferring it on Irish Masons in London.

" ' Dermott, in the meantime, never left London, but from all these circumstances, he gained a wide reputation. Decayed Past Masters flocked to his banner, and helped to fill up his Grand Lodge, attracted by the seat and the vote allowed them, and the pretense of being ancient, and they in their turn attracted others, and especially *candidates*, with the promise of more than the true Grand Lodge could give, and in the end, about the year 1795, his Grand Lodge got the greatest addition, took the lead for a time, say to 1808. In the meantime he sent

out deputations to the East Indies, and to many of the American colonies, especially to New York, Boston, and Charleston, and by that means introduced his errors into the New World, where they flourished vigorously until 1814, after the union of 1813 in England. In the meantime, he had manufactured a set of degrees of Past Master, Mark Master, and Superexcellent Master. The system in England is mixed with his novelties to this day, and through him, Templarism was grafted on the English and Irish Lodges. So great was the success of his humbugs, that his book reached five editions in America and ten in London, and yet, one can neither gather from them the history or character of the institution. All we can get, is the character, but not the history of the Grand Lodge of the pretended ancients.' And all this was done, according to the New York committee, by a man who was not an accomplished Mason! Indeed! It would require a greater degree of credulity to believe that than we possess. There must, we think, be some mistake about this matter. It may be well here to refer to the meaning of the word 'accomplished.' Webster in his dictionary, folio edition, says it is 'applied usually to acquired qualifications, *without including moral excellence.*' Brother Douglas, therefore, in calling him an accomplished Mason, did not attempt to vouch for his moral qualities, although much may be said in his favor.

"The committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, cite this—speak of it as an extraordinary sketch of Lawrence Dermott from the pen of our distinguished Brother Jarvis M. Hatch, of New York, now [then] Grand Senior Warden of the Willard Grand Lodge, and say, 'Some of this history is new to us—Dermott being called a Masonic impostor is a recent thing, so far as our information extends. We would be glad to be informed what made the Grand Lodge of "*Ancient York Masons*" a spurious Grand Lodge any more than the Grand Lodge of England? The Grand Lodge of York exercised jurisdiction over all England until 1567, when "the Masons in the Southern part of England elected Sir Thomas Gresham, Grand Master." This was not done by any authority of the assembly at York. At the assembly at London in 1717, the Grand Lodge of England, as at present, was established.

"In 1788, seceders, dissatisfied with the Grand Lodge of England for changing *landmarks*, as they said, held meetings and initiated Masons, and called themselves Ancient York Masons, and in 1789 established the new Grand Lodge under the name of the *Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons*. They announced that they alone preserved the "ancient landmarks" (see Text-Book, 61), and it appears from Brother Hatch's statement that the Grand Lodge of York, in closing its labors in 1788, "solemnly made over its powers to him (Dermott), confirming his Grand Lodge Constitution." And Brother Hatch adds—"without knowing what they contained." How Brother Hatch should know this last fact, we cannot divine, but we do not doubt he has some authority

for it; whether good or not, we should, from the nature of things, think questionable.

“ ‘We (say the Mississippi committee) see no difference in the organization of the two Grand Lodges, so far as rights were concerned. The Grand Lodge of 1717, as organized, and its new regulations requiring Lodges to be chartered, was an innovation, by which, at that time, no one was bound. If they who ultimately formed the Grand Lodge of 1739 were seceders from the Grand Lodge of 1717, so were the members of the Grand Lodge of 1717, and the Masons under it, seceders from the Grand Assembly at York. The Grand Lodge of *Ancient York Masons* was not considered spurious by the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, the immediate children of the Grand Assembly at York, who recognized the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, and so did the Grand Lodge of England, when a *union* was formed between them.

“ ‘What is most curious about this is, that if the Grand Lodge of the Ancients was a spurious Grand Lodge, then are all the Masons in New York spurious, for it was that body, under the Grand Mastership of a Duke of Athol, which gave the Provincial Charter to New York, and from the Masons made under which have descended all the Masons made in that State. In the Provincial Charter the Grand Lodge styles itself—“We, the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitution granted by his Royal Highness Prince Edwin, at York, Anno Domini, nine hundred and twenty-six, and in the year of Masonry four thousand nine hundred and twenty-six), in AMPLE FORM assembled.”

“ ‘Others beside Brother Hatch speak disrespectfully of Dermott, and the Grand Lodge of which he was at one time Grand Secretary and at another Deputy Grand Master. We never heard of his being expelled before. The fact may be true, but it would not affect his authority as a Masonic writer and compiler, nor make his Grand Lodge spurious. We do not doubt Brother Hatch's word in anything, and we would be glad if he would take the trouble to furnish us with his authorities.’ And so would your committee. Many of the statements of Brother Hatch are so extraordinary, and appear so highly improbable that it seems to be a duty incumbent on him to do so. That an Irish adventurer, poor and penniless, who had emigrated to London to better his fortune, and failed in that object, possessing no integrity *nor any Masonic accomplishments*, should in a few years have acquired such an influence over a large body of Masons in England, and over the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and even over the Grand Lodge of York, *the Grand Lodge of all England*, as is here alleged, almost staggers belief; but it is yet more remarkable that he could have practiced his humbugs and impostures, and maintained his influence for such a length of time, and in such a place, without his humbugs and impostures having been discovered; and it is not a little

remarkable that without any *Masonic accomplishments*, he should have been first made Grand Secretary and afterwards Deputy Grand Master of a Grand Lodge, respectable, at least in point of numbers and intelligence, and still more so that he could have practiced his impostures so long under the pretended sanction of the Grand Lodge of York, without its being known to that ancient and most intelligent body; and what is yet more extraordinary still, is that so respectable and intelligent a body as the York Grand Lodge should have assigned over to him all its powers, and sanctioned the Constitution of such an impostor (or any other Constitution), without knowing what it contained; and it is also not a little remarkable that a book composed of but patch-work and falsehoods, should have been published in London, gone through ten editions in England and five in America, without its defects and falsehoods having been discovered and denounced to the world; and yet the best Masonic historians to which we have access, among whom is Preston, a Past Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, one of the four old Lodges and the only one now in existence which constituted the Grand Lodge of 1717, do not mention it. Hutchinson in his *Spirit of Masonry*, page 27, says: 'Lawrence Dermott expressly asserts that a new modification of ceremonies took place at the revival of Masonry in 1717; but as his book was written for a party purpose, his testimony is to be distrusted.' Yet he cites him as authority on several other points, and Preston himself admits that this Grand Lodge of 1717 sanctioned some gross innovations, by which they obtained the appellation of *Modern Masons*, and in this he is borne out by the learned author of the *Revelations of a Square* (which abounds with interesting Masonic incidents, and contains a valuable body of Masonic history), as well as by Masonic historians generally.

"The facts, as we gather them from Preston (who had access to the best sources of information), Hutchinson, and others, are substantially as follows, viz.: The four old Lodges in London met in 1717, and formed a Grand Lodge. Before that time warrants were unknown. Any number of Masons within a district, provided they were sufficiently numerous to open a Lodge according to ancient usage, were competent to meet and perform all the functions of Masonry (Hutchinson's *Spirit of Masonry*, page 17), and consequently to initiate, pass, and raise Masons. These four Lodges reserved to themselves all their inherent privileges, but provided that no other Lodges should thereafter meet, without a warrant of constitution issued by their new Grand Lodge, and even with such a warrant, *denied to others the privilege of passing and raising Masons*. 'The old Masons in the metropolis, agreeable to the resolutions of the brethren at large, vested all their inherent privileges as individuals in the four old Lodges, *in trust* that they would *never* suffer the *old charges and ancient landmarks* to be *infringed*.' Of course this bound none but those who were parties to these proceedings. Those who were not, continued to meet and exer-

cise their inherent privileges as before, by holding Lodges without a warrant, and initiating, passing, and raising Masons. The new Grand Lodge, in order to cut them off as far as possible, and prevent all intercourse between those who attended these Lodges, and the brethren who acted under the new institution, made some changes in their work, which violated and *infringed* the old charges and ancient landmarks. This absolved the old Masons mentioned from their allegiance, and gave them great offense, and they, together with those who had never surrendered their privileges, formed another Grand Lodge, without imposing burdens which they were not themselves willing to bear. And really we can see no reason why they had not as good a right to do so, as those four Lodges had to form a Grand Lodge. It is to be remembered that the York Grand Lodge was, during all this time, not only in existence, but in actual operation.

"In 1754, proceedings were taken against them, and in 1787 it was declared by what was then termed the Modern Grand Lodge (which had been instituted by the four old Lodges), that 'those who met in the character of *Ancient* Masons, said to be then under the patronage of the Duke of Athol, should not be encouraged by any regular Lodge, or visited by any regular Mason, under pain of expulsion;' and we suppose if Dermott was ever expelled, it was for attending those Lodges of *Ancient* Masons. If so, the reconciliation which took place in 1813, between the Grand Lodge of England and the Athol Grand Lodge, annulled his expulsion, even admitting that it had been valid, for it operated as a tacit annulment of all expulsions for that cause, as well in favor of the dead as the living; but the Modern Grand Lodge had no more right to expel a Mason for attending the *Ancient* Grand Lodge, than the York Grand Lodge had to expel one for attending the Modern Grand Lodge. We are not the apologist of any of Dermott's errors (and doubtless he committed some), but we are disposed to 'render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's'—to 'let justice be done though the heavens should fall.'

"The fact that after their union they could work without difficulty together, shows very clearly that the errors of each had been greatly magnified during the angry contest that had existed between them.

"The New York committee, in commenting upon the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, say: 'We find in the proceedings before us, one of the most important and radical acts of legislation affecting proceedings against a Grand Master for Masonic delinquencies, that we have ever seen in any quarter. But while it is radical, it is eminently just and proper, for it carries out in great wisdom that branch of Masonic law and discipline so clearly foreshadowed by our forefathers in decreeing that, "if the Grand Master should abuse his great power, and render himself unworthy of the obedience and submission of the Lodge, he shall be treated in a way and manner to be agreed

upon in a new regulation," and they annex the resolution which is as follows :

"*Resolved*, That to the by-laws there be added this section, and in these words : Section 32. That the Grand Master, for unmasonic conduct, may be proceeded against and tried before any three or more Past Grand Masters ; that the accuser may present to any Past Grand Master oral charges, and if proper to be written, shall be written against the presiding Grand Master. That when the said Past Grand Master shall receive such charges, it is hereby made his duty to convey the oral charges, or if written, cause a copy of such charges, together with a notice of the time and place of trial, to be served on the accused, at least twenty days before such trial, and that the said Past Grand Master shall then notify three or more Past Grand Masters to assemble with him at the time and place designated for hearing the case, the sentence of the majority of whom shall be the decision : *Provided always*, That for just reasons a new trial may be granted."

"Your committee recommend this *resolution* to the favorable consideration of this Grand Lodge, should such new regulation ever become necessary in this jurisdiction. Your committee are, however, unwilling to believe that a case will ever occur amongst us to call for such new regulation.

LOUISIANA.

"Louisiana held her last annual communication in January last. Her committee on Foreign Correspondence notice that 'our respected sister, Pennsylvania, shines only through the light of her Grand Master's address, delivered on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, in 1852 ; which, in the absence of the record of her proceedings (they say), is not only sufficient to show us that she is alive, but that her brightness is not dimmed.'

"They recognized Minnesota and Oregon as new stars in our Masonic constellation, and in their bright rising, rank them as worthy sisters.

"They acknowledge the receipt of various publications emanating from Masonic bodies, among which are communications from the Grand Orients of France and Belgium, which afford pleasing indications of the prosperity of these venerable Fraternities.

"This Grand Lodge passed the following resolution, viz. :

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the rejection of an application for affiliation, does not affect the good standing of the applicant, or deprive him of any of his Masonic rights or privileges."

"Your committee approve this resolution, and regret the practice which prevails in some jurisdictions of publishing to the *world* all such rejections. Its tendency is to do injury to the feelings, if not the character of the applicant, without any corresponding good. Rejections frequently take place without any reference to the moral character of the applicant, and even where it is founded on a supposed want of moral qualification, it often occurs that it is the result of mistake, or wrong information.

MICHIGAN.

"The Grand Lodge of Michigan held its last annual communication

at Detroit, January 11th, A. L. 5854. About fifty Lodges were represented and fourteen under dispensation. Their committee on Foreign Correspondence made an able and interesting report, in which they (amongst other things) discuss the question whether the jurisdiction of the Past Master's degree properly belongs to the Lodge or the Chapter. In some States, the Royal Arch Chapters claim exclusive control over it. That committee held that this claim was unfounded, and in this opinion your committee fully concur. The degree in ancient times and up to a period not very remote, was conferred *only* upon those who had been elected to preside in a Lodge, and was, and still is, in a Master Mason's Lodge, a part of the installation ceremony. We say in a Master Mason's Lodge, because only three Past Masters *under the authority of such a Lodge*, might install the Master-elect, and in so doing, confer the degree. A Lodge of Master Masons, *as such*, can know nothing of the degree as conferred in a Chapter, and a Royal Arch Chapter can exercise no jurisdiction over a Blue Lodge, in regard to the degree.

MISSOURI.

"This Grand Lodge held an annual meeting in St. Louis, in June, 1853, and from the address of the Grand Master, it appears that an edict of the Grand Lodge of that State prohibits members to dimit, unless for the purpose of becoming members of some other Lodge, into whose jurisdiction such member is about to remove. This, the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York think is a just provision, and your committee have no hesitation in saying that it is in accordance with the usage of olden time, and the '*ancient regulations*.'

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence say: 'We ought to feel proud that the Masonic College of Missouri has had, on a short probation, more wonderful success than any other institution of learning in the United States. The endowment fund already realized by the sale of scholarships, is *thirty-seven thousand five hundred and sixty-four dollars*, and a further sum of fifteen thousand dollars has been contracted for, and will soon be realized.'

ALABAMA.

"In regard to Masonic literature, your committee extract the following from the annual address of the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alabama:

"'But this is not the only consideration. Our pride of reputation, and our love of the Craft, alike forbid that we should be content to be outstripped by other Grand Lodges in the literary progress of Masonry. Strange as it may appear, and as small a matter as some may be disposed to consider it, it ought nevertheless to be a source of gratification to every Mason, that such a thing has been organized as Masonic literature. Every society that would maintain its place in public esti-

mation, and preserve its influence, must address itself in some way or other to the reading public ; without this it will be forgotten, in this age when books are published by the minute, and papers and periodicals instruct their thousands ; when every trade and profession look to the press for information concerning the principles, character, and effect of everything that asserts a claim to public favor and reception. The press is the teacher of millions, and guides the human mind, thought, and opinion at pleasure. This powerful agent belongs not exclusively to politics, belles-lettres, arts, science, philosophy, and such like. But Masonry, in common with Christianity, observed its might for good or for evil, for truth or error, and employed it as a coöperator in the works of brotherly love, relief, and truth : to ennoble humanity, dignify the race, and send messages of sympathy from the brother in prosperity to the brother in adversity.

“ In two great departments of literature, books and periodicals, Masonry has done, and is doing well. Volumes upon history and character have been published, which the Mason may read and be edified and instructed, and from the perusal of which the uninitiated cannot rise without having conceived a more exalted opinion of the utility of the Order. Many valuable periodicals are monthly sent forth from different sections of our country, creditable to the editors, honorable to the Fraternity, and holding a position in literary ranks undisputed.’

“ And your committee feel in duty bound to add their testimony to the value of this Masonic literature, and especially to the value of these monthly Masonic periodicals as most important vehicles for the communication of Masonic information, and the discussion and settlement of vexed questions of Masonic law ; they come low, two dollars per annum being the price that they generally cost, and the *American Freemason*,* published at Louisville, Kentucky, by Brother J. F. Brennan, a most ably conducted, and very valuable paper, costs but *one dollar per annum*. It is edited by Brother Robert Morris, one of our most talented and intelligent brethren, deeply versed in all matters of a Masonic character, and especially in jurisprudence.

CALIFORNIA.

“ The Grand Lodge of California held its annual communication for the present year at Sacramento City, on the 4th of May last.

“ We note that it passed the following resolution, viz. :

“ *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that any member of a subordinate Lodge under another jurisdiction may become by affiliation a member of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction ; provided he be in good standing in his original Lodge, and pays his dues regularly to both.’

“ In reference to this, the committee on Foreign Correspondence of

* The *American Freemason* is now (July, 1859) the largest monthly Masonic magazine in the United States, published by J. F. Brennan, of New York, at \$3 a year ; and edited by Bro. Albert G. Mackey, of Charleston, South Carolina.—COMPILER.

the Grand Lodge of New York say : 'The resolution establishes a practice which does not often occur, though we believe it to be correct.'

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, commenting upon a decision of R. W. Brother Rockwell, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, 'that a dimit was not necessary to enable brethren to procure and act under a dispensation to form a new Lodge,' remark that 'the learned brother Readet says this is not correct Masonic Law, because no Mason can be a member of two Lodges at the same time,' and ask 'is the intelligent brother sure of this?' Our reading (they say) has taught us that there was no impropriety in Masons holding membership in two Lodges at the same time, and such we believe to be the current opinion in the United States, where the subject has been investigated. The views of your committee are in accordance upon this point with those of New York and Maryland, and are fully sustained by Brother John Dove, the able Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, who, in his *Masonic Text-Book*, page 252, says : 'Any brother may be a member of as many Lodges as may choose to admit him, and ought always to be a member of some Lodge.' The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi say, 'this is contrary to the usually received opinion of the present day, not because it was forbidden by any old law, but of its practical impossibility, when Masonry was better known by its operative than speculative character.' Your committee cannot perceive this practical impossibility, nor see any reason why an operative Mason, in the early ages of the Order, might not have left Egypt or Palestine, without withdrawing from his Lodge there, visited France or England for the purpose of obtaining better wages, or increasing his practical knowledge, joined a Lodge in either of those countries, and afterwards returned to his '*Father Land*' with the fruits of his industry and his enlarged experience, and continued to work with his former associates.

"By a regulation of the Grand Lodge of England, of 19th February, 1723-4, it was provided that 'no brother should belong to more than one Lodge, *within the bills of mortality*.' But this regulation has now (says Dr. Anderson) become obsolete.

"The Grand Lodge of California, at the same communication, passed another resolution which your committee cannot approve, viz. :

"*Be it further Resolved*, As the sense of this Grand Lodge, that it is competent for a Grand Lodge to try her Master for a misdemeanor in office, and deal with him as the nature of the offense may require, *which action will comprehend what is understood as a new regulation.*'

"The General Regulations of 1723, Section XIX., declare : 'That if the Grand Master should abuse his power and render himself unworthy of the obedience and subjection of the *Lodges*, he shall be treated in a way and manner to be agreed upon in a *new regulation*.'

At page 70, Section 89, it is declared that every Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to *make new regulations*. Webster, in his Dictionary, folio edition, page 927, defines a regulation to be 'a rule or order prescribed by a superior for the management of some business, or for the government of a company or society.' The regulation, therefore, we think must be first prescribed, or in the language of Anderson, *agreed upon*; and then the offending Grand Master may be treated in the way and manner thus agreed upon. The object of the provision of our ancient brethren evidently was, that the offending Grand Master should be apprised beforehand of the way and manner in which he was to be treated, or in the language of the present day *tried*, that he might know how to prepare his defense. Every principle of right and *justice* requires this. As well might the Legislature provide that a man, when charged with the commission of crime, should be tried, and that the mode of the trial should be considered the law of the case, than which a more unmitigated despotism can scarcely be conceived.

"The Grand Lodge of California has also, we think, committed another error in deciding that the Grand Master is but the creature of the Grand Lodge, with no inherent powers. Its language is, '*with no implied powers, inherent or divine.*' We are not aware that any intelligent Mason ever contended that a Grand Master possessed any divine power. If any *express* power is granted to him by his Grand Lodge, we suppose that every Mason who possesses any of the 'gladsome light of jurisprudence,' will admit that he possesses all the *implied* powers necessary to carry those *express* powers into effect; and moreover there were many powers exercised by Grand Masters from time immemorial—times long anterior to the formation of any Grand Lodges, and which, so far as they have not been taken away by the Constitution of his Grand Lodge, he now possesses and may exercise. These powers are inherent in the Grand Master. It would be, to say the least of it, a very unusual article in the Constitution of a Grand Lodge that would say that the Grand Master should have the right to preside in his Grand Lodge. This, we take it, is an inherent power derived from his installation. The Constitution or by-laws prescribe the time when the installation shall take place, but if there is a Constitution which declares what powers this installation shall authorize the Grand Master to exercise, it has not fallen in our way. This power is inherent, and a long list of such powers might be enumerated, some of which, as that of the right to preside, the Grand Lodge would have no right to take away. It is one of the ancient *landmarks*, and is as fixed as the 'laws of the Medes and Persians.' We are aware that our Grand Lodge at its last communication passed a similar resolution, and we most strongly recommend its repeal or modification. That resolution, in attempting to steer clear of Scylla, has run upon Charybdis.

"The Grand Lodge of California recognizes as legal the Grand Lodge of New York, known as the Willard Grand Lodge, which has also been

acknowledged as legal (your committee believe) by every Grand Lodge in the United States, except Mississippi (which acknowledges no Grand Lodge in that State as legal) ; also by the Grand Lodge of England, and most, if not all others, in Europe.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of California say : 'This Grand Lodge has already remonstrated against the intrusion of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg in her pretended jurisdiction within the territory of another Grand Lodge, and do most unequivocally place their seal of condemnation upon this most palpable wrong.' To this outrage, the Grand Lodge of Hamburg has lately added another, by granting a charter to a number of Masons in the city of New York to hold a Lodge there, to be called Franklin Lodge, No. 1, thus desecrating the name of the revered Franklin, and violating the first principles of our Order.

"This conduct of the Hamburg Grand Lodge deserves, and should receive universal reprehension, and the most decided condemnation.

TEXAS.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Texas say : 'By a report of P. G. M. Thomas Douglas, we find that the Grand Lodge of Florida has provided itself with a Masonic Library, and is constantly making additions to it as fast as their means will justify and necessities require. We cannot too highly appreciate this movement. Masonry has never been sufficiently studied by those who undertake to administer either its laws or its ritual. It is particularly important that Grand Officers should have access to the oldest and best Masonic authorities which are to be found ; for we cannot expect them to be intelligent, prudent, and just, unless they are provided with the means of thoroughly understanding the law they are to expound and enforce. We think it desirable, too, that every Mason should, as far as practicable, acquaint himself with the history of the Order, written as well as traditional.'

"And in these views your committee most heartily concur. The old adage 'knowledge is power,' applies nowhere more strongly than in our Fraternity. Let every Freemason then acquaint himself (so far as possible) with not only the history, but with the philosophy and the moral requirements of the Order, and he will find himself a wiser and, we trust, a better man. He will find too, this knowledge a panoply of strength, when contending with the enemies of our ancient and venerable Order.

CANADA WEST.

"The provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, at its half yearly communication, held in Kingston on the 20th day of May, 1853, adopted a petition to the Grand Lodge of England, praying permission to establish an independent Grand Lodge.

"The petitioners say that 'the spread of the time-honored institution of Freemasonry in this Province has been of a somewhat encouraging character, but, upon the whole, of a less cheering nature than the progress of Canada West in intelligence, wealth, and population might have warranted them in anticipating.'

"Your committee cannot but indulge the hope, indeed belief, that its separation from the Grand Lodge of England, and the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, would tend greatly to increase its energies, and give to the spread of the time-honored institution the impetus desired.

"This Provincial Grand Lodge reports 46 subordinate Lodges under jurisdiction.

NORTH CAROLINA.

"The Grand Lodge of North Carolina has passed a resolution forbidding the holding of Lodge meetings on the Holy Sabbath, which the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee copy without disapproval; *ergo* with approval, and which your committee also highly approve. Lodges ought not to meet for work on the Sabbath day, nor for any purpose, unless it be for the burial of a worthy deceased brother.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Georgia say, in reference to this resolution, that the practice of subordinate Lodges holding their regular meetings on the Sabbath day is without excuse, and we fully agree with them. 'There are six days in which men ought to work, and not on the Sabbath day,' is the language of Him who spake as one having authority and not as the Scribes.

"The Grand Master in his address said: 'I cannot avoid recurring in connection with this subject, to the necessity which exists of selecting officers that are *temperate, zealous, capable*, and of *good* repute,' a sentiment in which your committee most fully accord.

DELAWARE.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, which held its last annual communication on the 27th day of June, A. L. 5854, at Wilmington, were received only a few days since.

"The M. W. Grand Master delivered an address, in which we find the following, viz.: 'A question arose in Union Lodge, No. 5, held at Middletown in New Castle County, on which, by a resolution of the Lodge, my opinion was requested by Brother W. M. Barr, their Secretary, in a letter addressed to me in December last. The question in substance is this, namely: "Can a subordinate Lodge in the State of Delaware, initiate, pass, and raise a person residing in the State of Maryland, where there is a Grand Lodge legally constituted, and which, according to ancient Masonic usage, has jurisdiction over all subordinate

Lodges within the limits of the State." After having considered this question, so far as my limited means of information enabled me to do, I answered in the affirmative. The power of a subordinate Lodge in one State, to initiate, pass, and raise a non-resident of that State, has frequently been exercised. The right to do so has not, within my knowledge or information, been questioned or considered as violating any of the landmarks or principles of Freemasonry. No doubt, in some instances, this right has been incautiously and indiscreetly exercised; and thus unworthy persons may have been received into Lodges where their unworthiness was unknown, because due inquiry had not been made. Hence several Grand Lodges, while acknowledging the existence of this right, have thought it best for the interest and honor of the Fraternity to impose some restrictions upon its exercise by the subordinate Lodges within their jurisdiction. Thus the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in the year 1852, as I am informed, passed a resolution to instruct the subordinate Lodges, under its jurisdiction, not to initiate, pass, or raise any candidate who had not resided within their jurisdiction twelve calendar months before his application, unless he should present with such application the recommendation of the Lodge situated in the subordinate Masonic jurisdiction from whence he came, whether from Georgia or *elsewhere*. So, too, it was proposed in the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, to adopt as a part of their Constitution, a section declaring that no Lodge in Louisiana should initiate, pass, or raise, or admit to membership, any person who was a citizen of another State or country, unless by the consent of the Grand Master of such State or country, or unless he had established a permanent residence in the State of Louisiana. The section was first rejected. Afterwards it was adopted with a proviso, declaring that the section should not apply to any applicant whose permanent residence was nearer to the Lodge in Louisiana, to which such application might be made, than it was to any Masonic Lodge in his own State. Nothing in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Delaware prohibits the subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction from exercising the right of entering, passing, and raising a candidate, residing in an adjoining State. I therefore informed the Secretary of Lodge No. 5, at Middletown, in answer to his letter addressed to me, that the said Lodge, in the exercise of a sound discretion, and upon due inquiry, had the right to initiate the applicant residing in Maryland; and if his permanent residence was nearer to Middletown than it was to any Lodge in Maryland, and that if he was a man of respectability and irreproachable character, there was no objection to Union Lodge, No. 5, granting his petition.' The Grand Master of Delaware has placed this decision upon grounds as unexceptional as any upon which he could justify the action of Lodge No. 5. Yet we think he erred in his decision. We are aware 'that the power of a subordinate Lodge in one State to initiate, pass, and raise a non-resident of that State, has frequently been exer-

cised.' But the right to do so has, we believe, been very frequently questioned, and the difficulties resulting from its exercise have been such as to lead to a very general, if not almost universal conclusion, that the practice is inexpedient, and ought, as a general rule, to be abandoned. For a Lodge in one State to initiate, pass, and raise a man residing in another State where a Grand Lodge exists, *without its consent*, seems to your committee such a want of courtesy towards that Grand Lodge, as ought not be permitted. An agreement exists between the Grand Lodges of Florida, Alabama, and Georgia, providing for precisely such cases as that upon which the Grand Master of Delaware made his decision. This prevents any difficulty between the three jurisdictions on this subject. The Grand Lodge of New York, situated in the centre of commerce and navigation, where there are probably more applications for the degrees made by non-residents than in all the other States besides, although it still insists on its right to initiate, pass, and raise them, has, on account of the difficulties that grew out of its exercise, abandoned it. But can it properly be called a right? Your committee cannot conceive that any body of Masons can have a *right* to do an act, the natural tendency of which is to produce jealousy, disputes, and discord amongst a Craft whose strength and support is harmony and peace; and that such is the natural tendency of the exercise of this pretended right, all experience has proved.

DECREASE OF MEMBERS.

"We copy the following from the London *Freemason's Quarterly Review*, for June, 1854, because we deem the sentiments therein contained worthy the attention of every Mason, and because we find them to be in accordance with the views often expressed by the able editors of all our Masonic periodicals, as well as those of all the committees on Foreign Correspondence and M. W. Grand Masters of the respective Grand Lodges throughout the Union. So far as they have spoken upon the subject, there is not a dissenting voice in regard to the matters expressed in this extract, viz.:

"There is, unquestionably, much too great a desire now-a-days, on the part of the Fraternity, to value members above quality. In the history of the Order there is no instance on record of so rapid an increase of initiations as has taken place within the last three years. But if we examine the numbers thus brought to light, we shall find that very few indeed ever give Masonry more than a passing thought, being simply content with using the Lodge meetings as a vehicle for social intercourse. Of the many initiated, it is not at all extravagant to say that scarcely one in ten ever takes the slightest trouble to make himself acquainted with the nature of the work, and that, in the event of their rising to the W. M.'s chair, they are quite satisfied if they can manage to open and close without much hesitation or blundering. As

to the important duties of the three degrees, they leave them to some P. M., who is always at his post and delighted to possess a power which gives him influence and authority, looks at least upon the privilege of being perpetual acting W. M., as a right, and in some instances coerces his brethren into a compliance with his whims, because his services cannot conveniently be dispensed with. But is this as it should be? If a man enters Masonry at all, he is bound to fulfill its duties, which do not consist in his paying his Lodge dues regularly.

* * * * *

“‘We hold it as a positive duty, that no man ought ever to venture upon attaining the dignities of the Worshipful Master's chair, unless he can perform the duties of initiating, passing, and raising. He ought most assuredly to be able to work the section, which is a more difficult exercise, too much going out of use, except in Lodges of instruction.’

“‘However Masonry may flourish as to numbers, and increase of funds, until it be made a *sine qua non* that no Mason shall ever be a Worshipful Master until he can perform its continuous duties, the essence of the Order will never possess its due weight and importance.’ In these views your committee most fully concur, and bring them to the notice of the Grand Lodge for such action as its wisdom may devise.

“The great accession made and still making to our numbers (say the committee charged with the Foreign Correspondence in the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire), has awakened in the minds of several Grand Masters, a fear of approaching adversity, to guard against which they wisely caution their respective subordinate Lodges to guard well the entrance of their halls—to scrutinize closely the character of all candidates for admission. This, they say, is *as it should be*, and to this we say *amen*. Let it be so done.

VISITING SICK BRETHREN.

“It was a wholesome rule among the ancients of our Order, in all cases of severe illness in a brother's family, that a Master Mason should be present in the house, especially at night, to be always ready to give the necessary aid and assistance that the circumstances might require. In a Masonic address delivered by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, published in the third volume of the *Masonic Review*, on page 364, he said :

“‘Among all our regulations, there is none of more importance and utility ; and in the solemn hours of affliction and distress, no individual can more appropriately, delicately, and confidentially perform those duties, than a warm hearted, sympathizing brother of the mystic tie.’ And your committee are happy to find similar sentiments frequently expressed in Masonic addresses, periodicals, and reports of committees.

'Among the distinguishing features of Masonry in modern times (it has been said), is the disposition in the brotherhood, which is becoming more and more manifest every year, to reduce its beautiful precepts to practice. None of these have higher claims than those of visiting, sympathizing with, and aiding those upon whom disease has laid its heavy hand.' A disposition highly to be commended, and which it is hoped will soon become universal among our Craft; for surely none ought to be permitted to out-do them in works of charity and kindness.'

"In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio for 1853, an interesting biography is given of the late Most Worshipful John Snow, Past Grand Master of that Grand Lodge, over which he presided from 1818 to 1824. A high tribute is paid, not only to his worth as a man, but to his zeal and ability as a Mason, and his name, together with the date of his birth and death, was ordered to be recorded in the volume of Holy Writ belonging to the Grand Lodge. He was a disciple of our late revered Brother Thomas Smith Webb, whose *Monitor* is yet one of the most valuable text-books of the Order. As one of the members of this committee received a large share of his most valuable Masonic instruction from the Most Worshipful Brother Snow, who was some time engaged in lecturing and illustrating the work in Union Lodge, No. 29 (now No. 2), at Madison, Indiana, and in the Royal Arch Chapter at that place, nearly forty years ago, he could not resist the pleasure of noticing this circumstance, and adding his testimony to the worth of Brother Snow, and of the correspondence of his lectures and work with those of Brother Mackey, Grand Lecturer of South Carolina, delivered and wrought here three years ago.

GERMAN GRAND LODGES.

"In 1852, our late Most Worshipful Grand Master availed himself of the opportunity presented by the visit of Brother Grothe, late Secretary of Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, to his father in Berlin, Prussia, to send copies of our proceedings to several of the German Grand Lodges. A copy for 1851 and also a copy for 1852, were sent to the Grand Lodges of Hamburg, Saxony, and the Three Globes at Berlin; but none of them have had the courtesy to respond, and the same may be said of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, to which copies were also sent. The copies for the Three Globes were delivered by Brother Grothe in person. The Prince of Prussia, who is Grand Master of all the German Lodges, was present, and, after looking at them awhile, asked Brother Grothe to read that part of Grand Master Douglas' address of 1852, which related to the exclusion of our Jewish brethren by the German Grand Lodges. He did so and translated it, upon which the Prince remarked: 'That is stronger language than I like,' or words to that effect, and after some further inquiries, dropped the subject and turned away, seemingly not well satisfied. Still, it may be hoped, that some good results will follow.

"Your committee feel that they cannot close this report without some notice of our late worthy Brother John P. Duval, the able chairman of this committee, who has so long been a burning and shining light among us ; and to whom we looked with confidence for much aid and assistance in its preparation. He has, by Him who rules over all, in the exercise of His wise Providence, been removed from this Grand Lodge to (we trust) the Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect presides ; and this accounts for the many deficiencies and imperfections in our work, which his wisdom and experience, had he been spared to us, would doubtless have corrected.

"THOMAS DOUGLAS, *Chairman.*"

Which was received, read, and adopted.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

- On Credentials and Returns—Brothers BARRETT, MAY, and IVES.
- On Accounts—Brothers BARRETT, M. W. SMITH, and BROWN.
- On Ways and Means—Brothers MAY, DUMMETT, and HARRIS.
- On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers D. S. WALKER, S. B. STEPHENS, and BERNARD.
- On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers D. W. McCRAVIE, B. W. THOMPSON, and A. G. JOHNSON.
- On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers S. B. STEPHENS, BROWN, and TAYLOR.
- On Visitors—Brothers H. H. BERRY, DENNIN, and BLOCKER.
- On Education—Brothers J. S. MAY, H. R. SADLER, BARRETT, and MOSELY.
- On Unfinished Business—Brothers IVES, ELLENWOOD, and J. G. SMITH.

Brother Douglas, from the Library Committee, submitted the following report :

"The Library Committee, who were charged with the duty of purchasing books for this Grand Lodge, respectfully report that since the late annual communication, they have ordered the following works, which, should we be so fortunate as to procure them all, would make the Grand Lodge Library as full and complete, it is believed, as that of any in the United States, viz. :

- "Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England.
- "Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
- "Clarke's History of Minden Lodge.
- "Dermott's Ahiman Rezon, editions of 1755, 1772, and 1813.
- "Rosenberg's Synoptical Tableau.
- "Hodges' Masonic Fragments.
- "Essay on the Eleusinian Mysteries.
- "Layard's Ninevah, and Babylon and Ninevah.
- "Studley's Symbolism.
- "Faber's Origin of Pagan Idolatry.
- "Inman on Symbolic Colors.
- "Clavel's *Histoire Pittoresque de la Franco-Maçonnerie.*

- "Lawrie's History of Freemasonry.
- "Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry.
- "Addresses Centennial Anniversary Initiation of Washington.
- "Smith's Use and Abuse of Freemasonry, edition 1783.
- "Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry.
- "Bradley on Masonry.
- "Freemason's Pocket Companion, by Mant.
- "Mystic Circle, by George H. Gray.
- "History, Nature, and Objects of Masonry, by Millar.
- "Vestiges of Freemasonry among the Ruins of Asia and Africa.
- "The Origin of Freemasonry.
- "Genuine Freemasonry Indissolubly Connected with Revelation.
- "Freemasonry in Relation to the Divine Attributes of Charity.
- "The Symbolism of Freemasonry.
- "Cole's Masonry, London edition 1801.
- "Carlisle's Manual of Freemasonry, London edition (anti-Masonic).
- "Brown's Masonic Master Key, London edition.

"Some of these works are new, some new editions of old works, and some old works out of print, of which only second hand copies can be procured, and that with much difficulty. In addition to these works, it is hoped that the long expected work of Brother C. W. Moore, on Masonic Jurisprudence, of which two copies have been ordered, may ere long be published. The chairman of your committee has received a letter from Brother Moore, under date of the 16th ultimo, in which he says: 'I regret to say that my health and engagements have been such that I have made very little progress with my proposed work "on Jurisprudence," the past year. When published, it will give me pleasure to forward the number you desire.' We see, therefore, that the intention to publish this most important work is not abandoned.

"The balance of moneys in the hands of the chairman of your committee on the 10th of January last, was forty-two dollars and ninety-nine cents. Should the orders for all these works be filled, the cost added to the price of the periodicals, viz., *Moore's Masonic Magazine* (Boston), *Moore's Masonic Review* (Cincinnati), and the *London Freemason's Quarterly Review*, will exceed somewhat the above balance and render a small appropriation, say fifty dollars, necessary.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOMAS DOUGLAS, *Chairman.*"

Which was read and received.

Brother Douglas offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a committee consisting of three members be appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the Funeral Solemnities of our late Most Worshipful Grand Master, John P. Duval, deceased ; that they inform the committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the arrangements made, and report as early as practicable to the Grand Lodge.

Which was read and adopted.

A petition for a charter from sundry Master Masons in Sumpter County, was read and referred to the committee on Dispensations and By-Laws.

On motion, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

Whereas, The Supreme Architect of the Universe has recently removed from the scene of his earthly labors our late beloved Brother JOHN F. DEWITT, Senior Grand Steward of this Grand Lodge : Therefore be it

Resolved, That as a tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased Brother Dewitt, the jewels of the officers of this Grand Lodge be clothed in mourning during its present communication.

Resolved, That a blank page be left on the record book of this Grand Lodge on which shall be inscribed the name and date of decease of our deceased brother.

P. G. M. Call offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, It has pleased the Almighty Ruler of the universe to call from among us, to the Grand Lodge above, our worthy Past Grand Master, JOHN P. DUVAL, so long and so usefully associated with us ; as an evidence of our respect for his memory, and an expression of our regret for his loss :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge Room be put in appropriate mourning, and that the officers and members wear the usual badge of mourning during the period of sixty days.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment until ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, January 9, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made the following report :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, to whom was referred the petition of the constitutional number of brethren living in Sumpter County, Fla., asking for a charter to form a Lodge in the town of Adamsville, ask leave to make the following report : That they have examined the same, and find that it conforms with the constitution of the Grand Lodge of this State. Your committee, therefore, recommend that a charter be granted to said petitioners.

"Your committee have also examined the by-laws of Manatee Lodge, No. 31, working under dispensation, and recommend the adoption of the by-laws, with the following amendments, namely :

"Art. 5. By-Laws should not allow a petition to be withdrawn after having been referred to the appropriate committee of inquiry, to conform to Art. 8, Sec. 7, Con. G. L.; also Art. 5, By-Laws, should conform to Art. 9, Sec. 1, Con. G. L.; also Art. 6, By-Laws, should conform to Art. 5, Sec. 10, Con. G. L.

"With these amendments, your committee recommend that a charter be granted to said Lodge."

Which was read and adopted.

On motion, the following resolution was unanimously concurred in :

Whereas, The practices of Intemperance, Gambling, and Profane Swearing, are, and each of them is, a violation of the ancient constitutions and charges of Masonry :

Therefore resolved, That it is given in charge by this Grand Lodge to the Masters and Wardens of all the subordinate Lodges under this Grand jurisdiction, that those and similar vices be strictly prohibited, and that the Masters of said Lodges shall read this resolution in open Lodge, at a regular meeting, as soon as the proceedings of this Grand Lodge are received by them. And that the Grand Lecturer and his deputies be required to call the attention of each Lodge in which they may lecture to this resolution, at least once during each Masonic year.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 9, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Credentials and Returns made the following report :

"The committee on Credentials and Returns beg leave to report that they have duly examined the returns submitted to them from Hillsborough Lodge, No. 26, and find them correct.

"They also report that Brother R. A. Shine is duly authorized and empowered to act as the proxy of the W. M. at the present communication of the Grand Lodge.

"They have also examined the certificate from Jefferson Lodge, No. 33, appointing Brother L. R. Lang their Representative to this Grand Lodge, find it correct, and Brother Lang duly authorized to act in this Lodge as such Representative.

"Fraternally submitted,

"F. C. BARRETT, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and read.

Brother Whit Smith offered the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, Some difference of opinion exists among the brethren in reference to the payment of dues, for the membership of brethren belonging to Lodges under dispensation, therefore,

Resolved, That dues to the Grand Lodge shall be charged *only* for initiations against Lodges working under dispensation.

Which was read and adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 10, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as yesterday.

Brother Ives offered the following resolutions :

Resolved, That Brother Thomas Douglas and such four other members of this Grand Lodge as the Grand Master may appoint, be constituted a committee to prepare a History of Freemasonry in this State, and further, that each subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction be required to appoint a committee of three members to collect such information (from the records and otherwise) of their respective Lodges, as they can obtain—and report the same to the committee hereby appointed by the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That twenty-five dollars be appropriated out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and paid over by the Grand Treasurer to P. G. Master Thomas Douglas, Chairman of the Library Committee, for the purpose of enabling Brother Douglas to meet the payment of books already ordered by said committee.

Which were read and adopted.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then formed in procession, and proceeded to the grave of P. G. M. JOHN P. DUVAL, where the impressive rites of sepulture, prescribed by the Masonic Ritual, were performed by Grand Master Hayward, amid the solemn and mournful silence of the brethren and spectators.

The Craft then returned to the Lodge Room, and were called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 10, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election of officers, when the following brethren were declared duly elected :

M. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL BENEZET, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. F. C. BARRETT, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. WM. H. JAMES, Grand Junior Warden.

The Craft were called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, January 11, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

The Craft were called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 11, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

The Grand Officers-elect were then duly installed.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the exemplification of the work in the third degree of Freemasonry, and then,

The Craft were called to refreshment until to-morrow, nine o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, January 12, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Education made the following report :

"Though no particular subject of Education has been referred to this committee, yet your committee cannot pass over in silence a matter of such vital importance to all, and the promotion of which is one of the prime objects of Masonry. We, therefore, in accordance with the 9th Section under Article 4th of the Constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Florida, respectfully beg leave to submit the following :

"WHEREAS, Article 5th, Sec. 6th, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, provides that 'It shall be the duty of every subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to ascertain and keep themselves informed of the number of children of Master Masons residing within their respective jurisdictions, who are, or may be destitute of the means of education, to cause them to be instructed in the first rudiments of a general English education, so far as the funds of Lodges will respectively allow, consistent with other charities, and to report to the Grand Lodge, annually, the number of such children and the measures adopted in regard to them.' And whereas, The returns of the subordinate Lodges sent to this Grand Lodge, now in session, do not show a compliance with this provision of the Constitution, your committee think proper to offer the following resolution in connection with this report :

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby recommends that the Masters of every subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction, appoint a committee of three members, whose duty it shall be to gather the necessary information upon this subject, report the same to the Secretary in time to be returned to the Grand Lodge at its annual communications.

"All of which is most respectfully submitted,

"J. S. MAY, *Chairman.*"

Which was read and concurred in.

The Craft were called to refreshment until half-past six o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, January 12, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Master.
B. W. WM. WYATT, as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. J. L. MOSELEY, as Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. J. B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
W. I. W. BOWEN, as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. J. R. LLOYD, as Grand Junior Deacon.
Bro. M. BRAY, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters BROWN and CALL. With a due representation, members, and visitors.

And after the adoption of sundry resolutions in relation to the payment of claims against the Grand Lodge, &c., the Grand Lodge of Florida was then closed in AMPLE FORM.

RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Master.*

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 14, 1856.

M. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Master*.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 14th, A. D. 1856, A. L. 5856, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Master*.
R. W. THOMAS BROWN, as *Deputy Grand Master*.
R. W. C. C. FLETCHER, as *Grand Senior Warden*.
R. W. H. T. BLOCKER, as *Grand Junior Warden*.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.
R. Rev. F. A. BRANCH, as *Grand Chaplain*.
W. R. R. LANG, as *Grand Senior Deacon*.
W. THOMAS K. LEONARD, as *Grand Junior Deacon*.
Bro. M. BRAY, *Grand Tyler*.

With a due representation of subordinate Lodges, members, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That all Master Masons of good standing, who are members of subordinate Lodges, be respectfully invited to attend the meetings of the Grand Lodge at its present communication.

The Grand Master appointed the following brothers as a committee of Credentials and Returns : D. S. Walker, M. M. Michau, and D. A. Branch.

The Craft were called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, January 14, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The committee on Credentials and Returns made the following report :

" The committee on Credentials beg leave to report that they find the Returns from the following named Lodges correct, viz. :

- " Jefferson Lodge, No. 33—Represented by R. R. Lang.
- " Jackson Lodge, No. 1—Represented by D. S. Walker.
- " Palatka Lodge, No. 34—Represented by Thomas Hayward.
- " Manatee Lodge, No. 34—Represented by F. A. Branch.
- " Centreville Lodge, No. 18—Represented by T. K. Leonard.
- " Dade Lodge, No. 14—Represented by Thomas Brown.
- " Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25—Represented by D. A. Branch.
- " Suwannee Lodge, No. 30—Represented by John G. Smith.
- " De Soto Lodge, No. 32—Represented by Joseph Moore.
- " Orange Lodge, No. —Represented by R. A. Shine.
- " Hiram Lodge, No. 5—Represented by James Ellenwood.
- " Madison Lodge, No. 11—Represented by R. H. Shaffer.
- " Solomon Lodge, No. 20—Represented by M. Hearn.
- " Columbia Lodge, No. 27—Represented by E. R. Ives.
- " Newport Lodge, No. 23—Represented by John G. Park.
- " Alachua Lodge, No. 26—Represented by Henry Bradford.
- " Marion Lodge, No. 19—Represented by — Marston.
- " Chipola Lodge, No. —Represented by — Irvin.
- " Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17—Represented by J. L. McKinnon.

" Respectfully submitted,

" D. S. WALKER, *Chairman.*"

The M. W. Grand Master delivered the following address :

" BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :—It has pleased the Controller of events to permit us to meet again on the occasion on another Grand annual communication, in this hall, consecrated to morality, virtue, and brotherly love, and to renew mutual greetings, and pledges of fraternal fidelity ; and in the prosecution of our labors, for the benefit of the Craft, we should keep always in mind the obligations we are under to brighten and strengthen the chain which binds us together in the bonds of brotherhood, by mutual forbearance and courtesies.

" We owe gratitude and heartfelt acknowledgments to our indulgent Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, for the favorable circumstances under which we assemble on the close of another Masonic year, in the many blessings vouchsafed to us in this portion of His heritage, for fruitful seasons and the abundant productions of the earth, for health and exemption from fell disease, which, in the ways of His inscrutable Providence, have grievously scourged other portions of this highly favored land, and for the prosperity and harmony which are manifested in the interchange of communications between the Grand Lodges of

all the States of this wide-spread Union, where wisdom, strength, and beauty direct, support, and adorn our beloved institution.

"But, my brethren, we are often reminded by sad experience, that it is the lot of humanity to find mingled in the cup of joy, tears of bitter sorrow. And shall we receive at the hands of our Heavenly Father blessings, and not afflictions also? At our last communication, this altar was shrouded in the habiliments of mourning, for an old and loved brother, high in our Order, whose place was left vacant, not to be again filled by his presence. It now becomes my painful duty to announce to you the death of three distinguished members of this Grand Lodge, occupying a wide space in our affections, and whose loss we will all deeply feel and deplore.

"Brother Isaac H. Bronson, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, after a protracted illness; Brother Thomas Douglas, also Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of Florida; and our Rev. Brother William Choice, Past Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, dying whilst on his mission of Christian love in our neighboring State of Georgia—all have been called to give an account of their stewardships.

"These brethren have been called from among us in one short year—three of our brightest and most worthy brothers and exemplary Christians, who had grown gray in the service of the Temple, who will be no more with us to cheer us by their presence, and direct us in our labors; but their works and their examples remain for our guidance and direction.

"Brethren, when we look around us, we behold but a few remaining of those worthy Ghiblinites, who, in the darkest period of anti-Masonry, planted the standard of the Ancient Craft in the wilds of Florida, and established this Grand Lodge, which, by their skill and wisdom, has been elevated to the high position which she now occupies among her sister Grand Lodges of the United States. They are waiting for the sound of the Supreme Grand Master's gavel to lay down their jewels, to be clothed with brighter jewels in the Grand Lodge above; and the anxious thought arises, who among you, brethren, are coming forward to fill the places which are being so rapidly left vacant? We have abundance of good material in our quarries, but it should be remembered, my younger brethren, that it is only by skill and patient labor that the rough ashlar can be made a true and tried stone, fitted for the building.

"I have endeavored to discharge the very responsible duty which you imposed upon me, by my elevation to the office of Grand Master of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, to the best of my skill and ability; but I regret that my pursuits and engagements would not permit me to visit the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction generally, as I desired; but as there were able Grand Lecturers appointed

for the several districts of the State, I am sure the Craft have not been neglected.

"I granted a dispensation to the requisite number of Master Masons, properly recommended by Marion Lodge, No. 19, at Ocala, to open a Lodge, and work at Barnhart's Mill, in the county of Orange, to be called Orange Lodge. In April last, I granted a dispensation to the brethren of Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, to lay the corner-stone of their Masonic Hall, in the town of Milton, with the usual Masonic ceremonies, and in October last, I granted to the same brethren, a dispensation to dedicate their Masonic Hall, which they had completed, and in June last, I also granted a dispensation to the brethren of Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, to dedicate their Masonic Hall, in the city of Jacksonville. I also granted dispensations to the brethren of Columbia Lodge, No. 27, at Alligator, and to the brethren of Micanopy Lodge, No. 29, to celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, by a public procession. I received letters from members of several of the subordinate Lodges, propounding questions upon minor points of Masonic law and usage, to which I replied. I do not think in them are involved any matters of difficulty, but I submit them to the consideration of the Grand Lodge. I have received from the Grand Secretary the published proceedings of eighteen Grand Lodges, which I have examined with pleasure and profit, but it has been entirely out of my power to give to them the investigation which the very large amount of valuable information contained in them would require, to enable me to give even a passing glance at the most prominent subjects treated of; and I believe the proceedings of other Grand Lodges have since been received, which I have not been able even to look at. But, as there is a standing committee on Foreign Correspondence, whose duty it is to report on that subject, I beg to refer you to their report. I have received the proceedings of the national convention held at Washington, D. C., in January, 1855, which I lay before the Grand Lodge for your consideration, and also the address of Holland Lodge, No. 8, of the city of New York, 'to their Masonic brethren,' to which I invite your attention.

"Brother Robert Morris, editor of the *American Freemason*, published in Kentucky, an experienced Mason of great skill and ability, has compiled a model form of by-laws for the use of subordinate Lodges, a work of much labor and experience, which has been adopted by Jackson Lodge, No. 1. I would respectfully suggest to the Grand Lodge the propriety of adopting them as the by-laws of the subordinate Lodges of this jurisdiction. Form the high Masonic character of Brother Robert Morris, and his labors and devotion for the benefit of the Craft, and at the suggestion of several members of the Grand Lodge, I addressed a letter to him, inviting him to visit us at this Grand communication, and received a reply which induced me to hope that he would do so if in his power.

"In closing this address, brethren, whilst I acknowledge my sense

of the honor you have conferred on me, I am painfully conscious of my inability to discharge the high and responsible duties of my position in an adequate manner, and must throw myself on your kind and charitable feelings for great allowances, well assured you will all accord to me good intentions and a sincere desire to unite with you in the noble and glorious work of keeping in order our Mystic Temple, and transmitting to posterity our time-honored institution, as our fathers handed it down to us, pure and undefiled. I shall ever esteem this the proudest period of my life—by the kindness of my brethren, though unworthy of such high distinction, I have been elevated to, and occupied the position of Grand Master of Masons in Florida.

“And in returning to the fraternal ranks, I leave my best wishes with you, my brethren, and my earnest prayer with God, that light and peace may be around you—harmony and love within you, while called to labor in the Lodge below; and when you shall go joyfully up at the close of life’s toil, under the pleasing hope of reward, to the heavenly temple above, may you find there an ample refreshment in the presence of the Most High, and be welcomed with the approbatory words, ‘well done, good and faithful servants, enter into the joy of your Lord.’”

The Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On Credentials and Returns—Brothers WALKER, MICHAU, and BRANCH.

On Accounts—Brothers BROWN, BLOCKER, BRANCH, and MOORE.

On Ways and Means—Brothers WALKER, SMITH, and LEONARD.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers ELLENWOOD, HAYWARD, and LANG.

On Dispensations and By-Laws—Brothers BRANCH, MICHAU, FLETCHER, and SHAFFER.

On Visitors—Brothers BLOCKER and MOORE.

On Education—Brothers BLAKE, BRANCH, and ELLENWOOD.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers BLOCKER, FLETCHER, LANG, and D. A. BRANCH.

On motion, a charter was granted to Orange Lodge (working under dispensation), under the style and title of Orange Lodge, No. 36.

An application for a charter was presented, by the legal number of Master Masons, for a Lodge to be held in Jasper, and recommended by Hamilton Lodge, No. 22. On motion

“*Resolved*, That a charter be granted under the style and title of Orient Lodge, No. 37, and the officers be entitled to their seats in this Grand Lodge.”

Brother Joseph Moore, lecturer, exemplified the first degree of Masonry.

Brother Blocker offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

“*Whereas*, The nights being long and our labors arduous; therefore, be it

“*Resolved*, That the Tyler be instructed to order suitable refreshments for the brethren, to be served in the ante-room at ten o’clock each night during the session, to be paid for by this Grand Lodge.”

The Craft were called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o’clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, January 15th, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

P. G. M. Brown offered the following resolutions :

"Resolved, That in the death of Bro. ISAAC H. BRONSON, and Bro. THOMAS DOUGLAS, Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Florida, the Fraternity have lost two of their oldest and most valuable members.

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Florida has sustained a serious loss in the death of its Past Grand Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. WILLIAM CHOICE.

"Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge of Florida regard the death of three of its oldest, most distinguished and useful members, within the last year, as a heavy calamity and irreparable loss.

"Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days, as a token of their deep sorrow for the death of their beloved and lamented brothers.

Which were read and unanimously adopted.

The Grand Secretary reported the receipt of \$62.52 from the administratrix of our late lamented P. G. M. Thomas Douglas, being balance in his hands at the time of his decease as Chairman of the Library Committee, upon which P. G. M. Brown offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That the balance returned to the Grand Secretary by the Executors of the late Bro. Thomas Douglas, Chairman of the Library Committee, be returned to the Grand Treasurers of Lodge and Chapter, and that the Library Committee be discharged from further duty."

P. G. M. Brown offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That so much of the M. W. Master's address as refers to a National Grand Masonic Institution, and so much as refers to the address of Holland Lodge, No. 8, of the city of New York, be referred to a select committee.

Which was adopted, and Brothers Brown, Park and Moore, appointed the committee.

The Craft were called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 15, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

And some time having been spent in the consideration of propositions for the amendment of the Constitution, the Craft were called to refreshment until to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 16, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on last evening.

The Grand Lodge then went into an election for Grand Officers, when

upon successive ballots, the following brothers were declared duly elected : -

M. W. RICHARD A. SHINE, Grand Master.
R. W. E. R. IVES, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. C. C. FLETCHER, Grand Senior Warden,
R. W. F. R. PITTMAN, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. J. B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. E. L. T. BLAKE, Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

R. W. JAMES ELLENWOOD, District Grand Lecturer, Middle District.
R. W. M. WHIT SMITH, District Grand Lecturer, Eastern District.
R. W. JOSEPH MOORE, District Grand Lecturer, Southern District.
R. W. D. W. McRAINE, District Grand Lecturer, Western District.
W. D. A. BRANCH, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. HENRY BRADFORD, Grand Junior Deacon.
W. H. T. BLOCKER and HUGH FISHER, Grand Stewards.
W. JAMES L. MOSELY, Grand Orator.
Bro. MILES BRAY, Grand Tyler.

Bro. Moore exemplified the work in the first degree of Masonry.
The Craft were called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 16, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The select committee on "Dimits" made the following report :

"The select committee to whom was referred a resolution with regard to Dimits, which was laid over from last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida for final action, at this time beg leave to report :

"That after due consideration of the matter, they give it as their opinion that it is not in accordance with the ancient regulations, or with the spirit of Masonry, that a brother should withdraw his membership from the Lodge to which he is attached, except for the purpose of connecting himself with some other Lodge, or for the reason that he is about to remove from the jurisdiction of the Lodge of which he is a member.

"They would, therefore, recommend that the Lodges subordinate to this Grand body, be instructed to grant Dimits under no other considerations than the above.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"E. R. IVES, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and adopted.

Bro. Brown, from the select committee "on the Grand Master's Address and Holland Lodge," made the following report :

"The special committee raised on that portion of the address of the

M. W. Grand Master which refers to the 'Address of Holland Lodge, No. 8, to their Masonic Brethren,' have had the same under consideration, and respectfully beg leave to report :

"That without attempting the expression of any opinion on the causes which have so unhappily interrupted the harmony of the Masonic Fraternity in the State of New York, and so much to be deplored by all good and true Masons, they cannot approve the course adopted by 'Holland Lodge, No. 8, to cast aside the allegiance to which she has hitherto been subject, and to declare herself free and independent of all control and authority, save such as the ancient landmarks and usages of the Order have prescribed.'

"Your committee have been taught to believe that submission to legitimate authority is a cardinal principle in Masonry.

"That all Masonic power is derived from the Grand Lodge, and its rules and regulations must be strictly obeyed.

"That no territory can be rightfully covered by more than one superior jurisdiction.

"That due homage must be paid to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers when duly installed.

"That no new Lodge can be formed without the permission of the Grand Master, and a charter or warrant to work.

"Your committee therefore believe that the determination of 'Holland Lodge, No. 8, to cast aside the allegiance to which she has hitherto been subject, and to declare herself free and independent of all control and authority,' is contrary to all the usages of Freemasonry, and that in her present attitude, she is an irregular, clandestine assemblage of Masons, with whom the Masons of this Masonic jurisdiction cannot, legitimately, hold Masonic intercourse.

"The special committee raised on that portion of the M. W. Grand Masters' address which refers to the 'proceedings of the National Masonic Convention held at Washington, D. C., January 3d and 4th, 1855,' have examined the proceedings of that convention, and beg leave further to report :

"That they discover nothing in the 'Articles of Confederation' adopted by that Convention, and recommended to the Grand Lodges of the United States, which they regard as dangerous or objectionable, but on the contrary, believe that they may have a salutary effect in reconciling differences and maintaining harmony, and therefore submit the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the plan of a National Confederation, recommended by the National Masonic Convention, held at Washington, D. C., in January, 1855, be accepted and adopted by the Grand Lodge of Florida, and that the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge do transmit a certified copy of this resolution under the seal of this Grand Lodge to R. W. Finlay M. King, of New York, the Secretary of the Convention.

"THOS. BROWN, *Chairman.*"

Which was adopted.

The following resolutions relative to the death of P. G. M. Thomas Douglas, of Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, were read and adopted and ordered to be spread on the minutes :

" WHEREAS, The all-wise Dispenser of human events has, by His inscrutable decree, since the last communication of this Grand Lodge, removed from the cares and troubles of this transitory sphere to, as we firmly believe, the celestial Lodge above, Past Grand Master THOMAS DOUGLAS, one of the founders of Masonry within this jurisdiction : Therefore, be it

" *Resolved*, That in the death of our well-beloved brother, Past Grand Master Thomas Douglas, the institution of Masonry has lost one of its most zealous and devoted members, one who, for forty-two years, has been 'a bright and shining light' in the ranks of the Fraternity.

" *Resolved*, That in token of our respect for the many virtues of our deceased brother whilst living, and for his memory, we will wear the usual badge of mourning for the space of sixty days.

" *Resolved*, That the jewels and furniture of this Grand Lodge be clothed in mourning for the space of thirty days.

" *Resolved*, That a blank page on the Record Book of this Grand Lodge be inscribed to the memory of our deceased and illustrious brother.

" *Resolved*, That a copy of this preamble, and of these resolutions be forwarded under the seal of this body, to the widow of our deceased brother."

After the examination of local matters, the Grand Lodge of the State of Florida was then closed in AMPLE FORM.

RICHARD A. SHINE, *Grand Master*.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.

ADDRESS,

BY REV. E. L. T. BLAKE,

DELIVERED BEFORE JACKSON LODGE, NO. 1, ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,
JUNE 24TH, A. L. 5855, ON

"THE MORAL ASPECTS OF FREEMASONRY."

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE GRAND LODGE.

"In responding to the flattering request of my brethren and companions, to be their speaker on this occasion, it is not my purpose to present you with a fulsome eulogy of Freemasonry, nor to excite your curiosity and bewilder your imaginations by any affectation of mystery, or unintelligible allusions, or dark utterances. The dignity reflected upon the occasion by the character of the illustrious personage whose birth we commemorate, and the respect which I owe to the intelligent auditory before me, forbid such a course, while my own sense of responsibility, in view of my relation both to the Order and to society at large, dictates to me a loftier aim. It shall be my object, therefore, to render this part of the day's exercises profitable as well as entertaining, not only to members of the Craft, but to all others who have honored us by their participation in this festival.

"The true character and design of our Order are very generally misunderstood by those not connected with it, and too often practically lost sight of even by its own members.

"Those who regard our Fraternity merely as a mutual aid society, designed to afford pecuniary relief to the needy, and protection and support to the weak and defenseless among those who compose it, have adopted very narrow and imperfect views of the subject. And the *brother* who thinks that he discharges all his obligations in ministering to the physical wants of the persons and families of indigent and suffering brethren, and maintaining inviolate the secrets of the Order, places a very low estimate upon his position as a Mason, and greatly depreciates the character and aim of our time-honored institution.

"Speculative Masonry encourages progress and stimulates to excellence in all that tends to the dignity, usefulness, and happiness of man-

kind. It inculcates diligence in the acquisition of knowledge, and smiles most upon him who, by improving his own natural endowments, prepares himself to be an example to his fellows, and a benefactor to his race. It enjoins patriotism, allies itself with true religion, and is promotive of every public and private virtue. Whatever may be the fact as to the extent of its existence as an organization, it is undeniably true, that the spirit and genius of the institution are cosmopolitan. It addresses itself to *man, as such*, in every aspect of his existence, in every relation he sustains. It seeks not only the welfare of his body—to increase his physical enjoyment—but aims, by the right culture of his mind and heart, to develop and purify his noble nature, and to secure for him that exaltation and felicity which are at once the result and the reward of intelligence and virtue.

“From the number and variety of topics suggested in the above rapid review of the nature and design of the institution, I have selected one as an appropriate theme for the occasion on which we are assembled to day, and propose to offer some remarks on the ‘*Moral Aspects of Freemasonry*.’

“Several considerations incline me to this branch of the subject. 1st. It is intrinsically more important in its bearings upon the merits of the institution itself than any other. 2d. It has seldom (at least so far as my experience extends), been made the special subject of attention on occasions like the present. 3d. The design and tendency of the Order have been more generally misapprehended at this than at any other point. Finally, the life and example of him whose name is given to this festival, and whose memory should be the presiding genius of the hour, decide my choice. Discarding all other pursuits as comparatively unimportant, his life was devoted to the moral reformation and improvement of mankind. The firmness of purpose, the lofty disregard of worldly ease and honor with which he pursued his chosen career, invest his name and character with a moral grandeur seldom paralleled in the annals of humanity. Disclaiming for himself the title of either priest or prophet, he yet announced his mission and proclaimed his message with the conscious dignity of an ambassador of the Most High. ‘I am,’ said he, ‘the voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord.’ The purity of his life was a perpetual rebuke to sin, and illustrated the virtue he commended with his lips. His courage never failed; his fortitude and fidelity in his high vocation wavered not, till he fell a martyr to his faithfulness, and the profligate Herod, at the instigation of his adulterous queen, beheaded him in prison.

“Did John the Baptist occupy the place of your speaker to-day, it is easy to imagine what would be the subject of his discourse. Eighteen centuries in Paradise have certainly not impaired his estimate of the soul’s value—of the superiority of the spiritual over the animal nature of man. If his life on earth was spent in reproving vice and promot-

ing virtue, with how much greater earnestness might we expect him now to condemn the one and commend the other !

"But we must hasten to the discussion of the subject proposed.

"In treating of our Order as a moral institution, our first step will be to ascertain and exhibit the moral code of Masonry.

"1. As the only rational basis of true morality, it assumes and teaches the existence of a God, and the immortality and accountability of man ; that man is the creature of God, and owes to him worship and obedience. The whole structure is built upon these first, fundamental truths, and the initiation of one who does not receive and hold them, would be an unmeaning farce, an absurd mockery.

"2. In ascertaining the rules which the all-wise Creator has prescribed for the government of His creatures, and thus arranging the details of its morality, its text-book is the Bible. The first object that meets the eye of the candidate on his initiation into the mysteries of the Order, is the open volume of divine inspiration. This, he is taught, is the 'first great light in Masonry,' and is to be regarded as the 'inestimable gift of God to man.' The history of Freemasonry could not be written without the aid of the Bible, and its very symbols and cabalistic words are derived, in whole or in part, from the same sacred source.

"It is true that traces of the existence of the Order are said to have been found among nations and tribes who are not now in possession of the Scriptures. But in every such instance in which I have been informed, there is reason to infer that their knowledge of its mysteries was originally derived from those who had access to this inestimable treasury of heavenly truth. Be that, however, as it may, our chief concern is with Masonry as it exists in our own and other enlightened Christian countries. Here, no Lodge is ever opened, or considered furnished, till the Holy Bible crowns its altar. And that the Bible in the Lodge is not regarded as a mere *decoration*, nor esteemed solely for its historical importance, but is recognized as the authentic expounder of the will of God and the duty of man, may be readily proved. A comparison of the duties enjoined and taught in the Lodge with the moral precepts of the Bible, establishes their identity. This fact, coupled with its recognition of the Holy Scriptures as 'the gift of God to man' and 'the first great light in Masonry,' demonstrates our position that the morality of Masonry is the morality of the Bible. For the identity above mentioned is not the mere coincidence of two separate systems, independent of each other in their authorship and origin, but the Bible, the authority and obligation of which are thereby acknowledged, prescribes the moral code of Masonry, and is, as before stated, the Masonic text-book in everything appertaining to the regulation of human conduct. Abundant evidence on this point is furnished by the various charts and manuals approved by the Order and adopted and

used in all the Lodges in the United States, and especially in the third section of the explanation of the Entered Apprentice degree.

"Several instances may not improperly be given in illustration of the position already established. The 'charge' addressed by the Worshipful Master to every brother on his admission to the first degree, contains the following injunction: 'There are three great duties, which as a Mason, you are charged to inculcate—to God, your neighbor, and yourself. To God, in never mentioning His name but with that reverential awe which is due from a creature to his Creator; to implore His aid in all your laudable undertakings, and to esteem *Him* as the *chief good*. To your neighbor, in acting on the square, and doing to him as you would wish he should do to you. And to yourself, in avoiding all irregularity and intemperance, which may impair your faculties or debase the dignity of your profession.' A wilful violation of the details of any of these three comprehensive rules, would constitute just grounds for a charge of unmasonic conduct; for in enjoining these duties, the opposite vices are of course interdicted and condemned. If, therefore, the irreligious and profane, the unjust, the licentious, and the profligate, are found among Masons, they remain under ban of the fundamental principles of the Order, proscribed by the spirit and design of the institution, whose 'dignity' their conduct tends to debase.

"Viewing man as he is in this world, a social being—each individual forming a link in the great chain of humanity, each wielding an influence and exercising a power for evil or for good upon his fellows—the crowning virtue of the Masonic institution is *charity*. Not only almsgiving and benevolent acts, but a merciful disposition, a universal good will to all men, and especially, fraternity of feeling and mutual forbearance and confidence among the members of the Order. This is the topmost round of its theological ladder, which is composed of 'faith in God, hope in immortality, and charity to all mankind.' It teaches us to bear with the infirmities of a brother, and to be more ready to speak of his virtues than his faults. To defend his name and reputation in his absence, so far as it can be done consistently with truth. In short, the law of love, as contained in the Bible, as expounded and illustrated by Jesus Christ, is adopted and commended to all Masons as their rule of life, their bond of union.

"Having thus given a brief exposition of the moral tenets of Freemasonry, I propose in the second place to offer some considerations or arguments in favor of the moral utility and value of such an institution.

"On this point I am well aware the subject is thronged with difficulties. Difficulties, however, arising not out of any obscurity in the subject itself, but from a misconception of the true position and province of Masonry, in subserving the great ends of morality.

"In proposing any scheme for the reformation and improvement of

society, in any of its forms or aspects, a primary and important question which arises is, to use a common expression, Will it *work*? Will it operate successfully? No matter how plausible the system may appear in itself, the proper inquiry is, has it been constructed with such regard to the laws of man's nature, and to the principles of the divine administration of this world's affairs, as to warrant the expectation of important practical results? The point to be settled is, not what it *promises* and *aims* to do, but what it *can* and *will* accomplish. And when an experiment has actually been made, and the system fairly tried, an appeal is justly made to the result of such experiment, as a test of its practical value. Unfortunately, however, the evidence in such cases is not always impartially examined; instead of carefully weighing the facts and comparing the testimony they furnish, men are apt to leap to a conclusion, favorable or unfavorable, upon an imperfect investigation or upon no investigation at all, deciding rather in accordance with their own previous partialities or prejudices than upon the real merits of the case, carefully ascertained. Consequently, we often hear the same thing condemned without qualification by some, and lauded with exaggeration by others. Besides, under the influence of that spirit of censoriousness, which seems to be a universal trait of human nature, we are generally much more ready to discover defects than perfections, either in persons or things, unless we happen to be predisposed in favor of the object of our consideration. Hence the opposers of our institution have not failed to observe and chronicle every fact which the history of the Order furnishes derogatory to its reputation and its claims. And it must in candor be admitted that the irregular and vicious habits of too many members of the Order, have made these occasions of reproach lamentably frequent. But it is contended that this does not justify the condemnation of Freemasonry itself, nor necessarily destroy its claims upon the confidence and respect of the community as a moral institution. If the dishonorable examples above cited can be shown to result from the system—if there can be discovered anything in its constitution which legitimately tends to produce such results, then the objection founded upon them is valid and not otherwise. Besides, it should not be overlooked that Freemasonry, though a moral institution, is not, and does not claim to be a *system of religion*. It lays claim to an ancient and honorable, but not a divine origin. It professes itself the friend and promoter, but not the author or source of virtue. It is the handmaid, and not the mother of piety. It inculcates purity and uprightness, but it has no inherent supernatural efficacy—no regenerating power. It is, and desires to be regarded nothing more than an institution of man. One, however, wisely adapted to the constitution and wants of human nature, and apparently demanded by the exigencies of human life. It is, therefore, unjust in the enemies of our Order to condemn and repudiate it for that which is the fault, not of the system itself, but of its administra-

tion, and disingenuous to demand of it that which it never proposed to accomplish.

"There is also a very wide distinction between the moral relations and position of Masonry and those of the Christian Church. The latter is of Divine institution. It is designed not merely, nor even *primarily*, to bless and improve the condition of man in *this* world, but as a Heaven-appointed instrumentality in effecting his eternal salvation in 'the world to come.' The relation of the Christian Church to the welfare of mankind in this life, is a secondary and subordinate relation. However great and valuable the benefits it confers upon men here, they are but incidental to its main design. Its first and paramount aim is to fit us for heaven. While, therefore, it seeks to alleviate the ills of this life, and its regulations and requirements tend to make man the friend and helper of his kind, and to unite in harmonious fellowship all the various individuals, classes, and communities, of the human race, it is with the final view of uniting each and all to God in holy spiritual communion—of subjecting the whole man, inward and outward, and all men, of whatever nation or clime, to the spiritual dominion of the 'King of kings and Lord of lords.'

"Masonry, on the other hand, takes lower ground. As before remarked, it claims no divine origin. It is the offspring of humanity—born of the wants and circumstances of man as he exists in the present world. To affect, therefore, as its *primary* object, the spiritual reunion of man with God, and the final salvation of the former in Heaven, would be a kind of presumption which, so far from commending it to favor, might justly awaken suspicion and distrust. This would be to make it the rival of the Church, and to assume for it the rank and position of a system of religion—a position which it disclaims.

"The moral relations of Masonry, therefore, to the temporal and eternal condition and destiny of mankind, are similar to those of the Church *transposed*. It concerns itself *immediately* with the welfare of man in this life. It seeks to smooth away the difficulties, remove the barriers, and pluck the thorns from the path of the pilgrim, during the continuance of his earthly journey; to encourage those arts and pursuits among men which tend to lighten the burdens they are called to bear, and to inculcate such rules of conduct as will make each individual a contributor to the general well-being and happiness of all. And surely this is a noble work—a sublime and worthy mission—at the same time it is one entirely within the limits of human prerogative and privilege. It invades no right—it threatens no desecration of the sacred province of religion. Confessing itself subordinate, it meekly borrows from religion such guidance and support as it requires to equip it for its task. And wisely judging that the moral code of Christianity, or of the Bible, is as closely connected with man's prosperity and happiness here as hereafter, it makes that code its own. It thus becomes the friend and ally of the Church, by pointing to the

beauty and evincing the necessity of that religion, from which it derives its noblest elements of excellence, its most efficient means of usefulness.

"From what has been said upon this point, I think it will appear that the exercise of so rigid a moral discipline as is proper to the Church, would be inappropriate in a Lodge. For though Masonry has adopted the Bible system of morals, as the true rule of human life, and on all proper occasions urges obedience thereto as the true standard of Masonic consistency and excellence, yet it may, without being false to the position thereby assumed, require something less than an exact conformity to this rule as a *test of membership*. We are at liberty, as I conceive, to make expediency the sole ground of determining this point. The question to be decided may lawfully be, not what degree of moral perfection a man should possess in order to membership in a divine institution, such as the Christian Church, nor even to qualify him most efficiently to carry out the designs of the Order, but simply to what extent his life should conform to the moral precepts of the Bible and of Masonry, to enable us to effect the ends of the institution more surely and successfully with him than without him. No evil can result from the adoption of this principle, while its proper position is assigned to Masonry, as an association of human origin and authority, designed to accomplish certain valuable ends proposed by itself, but by no means assuming to be an appointed vehicle of Divine grace, nor the means otherwise incidentally of man's final salvation. It will also be observed that this principle of expediency is to be applied, not in determining what a Mason *ought* to be, but only in deciding what he must be, or forfeit his right to, membership.

"In view of this subject, which we think will be regarded as reasonable and just, the objection so often urged against the moral utility of the Order, based on the immoral habits of some of its members, loses much of its force. But to the mortification and regret of every enlightened and conscientious Mason, it must still be confessed, that even the rule of expediency above alluded to, is sometimes violated, and through a culpable looseness of administration, some of the fundamental precepts of Masonic morality are allowed to be trampled in the dust with impunity, while instances are still more numerous in which to escape expulsion or formal censure seems to be the only subject of concern, and all the admonitions so often urged to the attainment of a higher grade of moral excellence and Masonic usefulness are passed by unheeded. And yet these very persons often profess the most zealous attachment to the Order. Surely they do not reflect that by the irregularity of their lives, they not only detract from their own personal respectability and influence, but bring upon the institution they pretend to love unmerited disgrace.

"But notwithstanding all the disadvantages entailed by the inconsistencies of its friends and exaggerated representations of its enemies, we

still believe that Masonry is capable of wielding an important moral influence, and is by no means to be despised as an auxiliary in the moral improvement of mankind.

"He must possess but little sensibility indeed who can attend from time to time to the sublime lessons of morality taught symbolically and otherwise, in the ordinary exercises of a Lodge, without being more or less affected by them. When he is solemnly admonished that reverence for the awful name of God is one of the essential qualifications of a true Mason, it must induce reflection upon the repulsive and odious vice of profane swearing. And in like manner, all the other great duties of a pure morality are kept constantly in his view. Again and again is he reminded of these obligations—ever and anon is the impression repeated and renewed as often as he enters the Masonic sanctuary.

"Again, one of the chief of virtues is *Charity*, to the demands of which every brother is bound to respond, at least so far as the outward expression is concerned. And if it is true that virtuous principles lead to virtuous deeds, it is likewise true that virtuous habits suggest and tend to strengthen the principles on which they are founded.

"Further, the high moral standard erected by our institution, and the noble work it proposes to accomplish, invite to a participation in its labors and privileges the purest and best of men. Many of these are numbered among the members of the Order, and the efficacy of their example and the weight of their influence upon other members, are greatly augmented by their Masonic relations.

"The anti-sectarian catholicity of Masonry also enables it to subserve a valuable moral end. By it, men of all religious creeds and every phase of political opinion, are drawn together and united in mystic brotherhood. Within the hallowed courts of the Masonic Temple, they may forget their contentions and strife, lay aside the hostility of partisans, silence the cruel clamors of prejudice, and remember only that they are men and brethren. Here the demon of ambition has no encouragement to enter. The very atmosphere by which they are surrounded is one of harmony and good will. The jealousies and rivalry of sect and party are banished from the place, and heart communes with heart, and hand meets hand in the warm clasp of fraternal fellowship. The rich and poor here stand side by side—the high and the lowly, the aged and the young, freely commingle, and all have common rights and equal privileges.

"These considerations, which, had we time, might be greatly extended and enlarged upon, are sufficient to convince the candid and reflecting mind of the moral utility of Freemasonry. They suggest to ourselves the vast resources and means of usefulness which we as Masons may render available. They remind us of the obligations we have assumed in view of our duties to God, to our neighbor, and to ourselves. If we would secure our own happiness and welfare—if we would prove our-

selves sincere in the profession we have made—if we would see our venerable Order take and maintain its true position in the communities where it exists, we must be faithful to these obligations. And suffer me to add, that in order to reach the high standard of Masonic morality, man needs supernatural aid. So wayward are our passions, so unstable is our will, so deceitful are our hearts and so seductive are the objects which tempt us beyond the moral landmarks of the Order, that without some better reliance than the strength of our own resolves, we shall constantly violate our own acknowledged principles, and thus bring reproach upon ourselves and discredit upon our cherished institution. I do but speak as a Mason when I say this. Masonry itself recognizes the frailty and impotence of man. Our own ritual as an Order, teaches us to seek almighty aid in all our undertakings. How then shall we seek, and by what means obtain that assistance from above, without which our best efforts will be fruitless? In yonder Bible, the central luminary of the Masonic system, the help we need is promised, and the means of obtaining it revealed. That help is to be found in the presence and influence of God's Holy Spirit. That Spirit is to be sought through the mediation of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. There are many good reasons why the doctrine tests of Freemasonry should not be changed, but there are reasons equally strong why every Mason should avail himself of the only provision which meets the moral necessities of his nature, and will prepare him faithfully to represent the character and design of our noble institution. Persuaded as I am of the truth and authority of that sacred Book which Masonry delights to honor, I cannot do otherwise than conclude that, in order to be a *true Mason*, a man must be a true Christian."

NOTE.—Preceding this address, was the Historical part of ANDERSON'S CONSTITUTIONS of 1723, but as the Constitutional part was not published until 1857, I have concluded to put both together, with the proceedings of that year, in order that a document so important—containing as it does the fundamental Laws of Freemasonry—may be found complete.—COMPILER.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 12, 1857.

M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY, *Grand Master*.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 12th, A. D. 1857, A. L. 5857, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

R. W. E. R. IVES, D. G. M., as *Grand Master*,
R. W. C. C. FLETCHER, *Grand Senior Warden*,
R. W. JAS. ELLENWOOD, *Grand Junior Warden*,
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*,
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Treasurer*,
R. Rev. E. L. G. BLAKE, *Grand Chaplain*,
W. H. T. FISHER, as *Grand Senior Deacon*,
W. WM. FELKEL, as *Grand Junior Deacon*,
Brother M. BRAY, *Grand Tyler*,
P. G. M. THOMAS BROWN,

With a due representation of subordinate Lodges, members, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM and with prayer by the Right Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master appointed the following committee on Credentials and Returns : Bros. Ellenwood, Fisher and Fletcher.

On motion, called to refreshment, until seven o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, January 12, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The committee on Credentials and Returns, made the following report which was received and adopted :

" Your committee on Credentials, after due investigation of the same, beg leave to report the following Lodges duly represented :

" Washington Lodge, No. 2—D. P. Holland, Representative ; T. Y. Henry, W. M.

" Hiram Lodge, No. 5—James Ellenwood, W. M. and Representative ; Calvin Davis, S. W.

" Dade Lodge, No. 14—T. J. Fontain, Representative.

" Centreville Lodge, No. 18—William J. Felkel, Representative.

" Marion Lodge, No. 19—Josiah Paine, Representative.

" Solomon's Lodge, No. 20—J. McHenry Tidings, Representative.

" Eucheeanna Lodge, No. 17—J. L. McKinnon, Representative.

" Columbia Lodge, No. 22—E. R. Ives, Representative and proxy for J. W. ; M. Whit Smith, proxy for W. M. and S. W.

" Jefferson Lodge, No. 33—Abner Worthington, Representative.

" Concordia Lodge, No. 28—L. F. Foster, Representative.

" Your committee beg leave to report the returns of the following Lodges as incorrect :

" De Soto Lodge, No. 32—No names of officers, having had no election.

" Micanopy Lodge, No. 29.

" Orange Lodge, No. 36—No Representative.

" Orion Lodge, No. —Under dispensation—McKay and McKinnon—Henry J. Stewart, Representative.

" Hillsborough Lodge, No. 35—Joseph Moore, Representative.

" Ira Carpenter Lodge, No. —Under dispensation—Joseph O. Mitchell, W. M., and Representative.

" Alachua Lodge, No. —Under dispensation—William J. Duval appointed proxy by the Representative-elect.

" Franklin Lodge, No. 6—Thos. Hayward, proxy for W. M. and S. W.

" Mannatee Lodge, No. 31.

" Gee Lodge, No. 21—Returns correct—W. L. Spear, Representative and proxy for W. M. and S. and J. W.

" Madison Lodge, No. 26—Returns correct—Lucius A. Church, Representative.

" Suwannee Lodge, No. 30—Returns correct—John G. Smith, Representative.

" Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27—Returns correct.

The Grand Master delivered the following address :

" BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :—In the onward march of time, that knows no pause, another Masonic year has been accomplished since we separated in this Hall, consecrated to the sacred duties of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth ! and now permit me to greet you with a hearty and fraternal salutation, on this occasion of our meeting in another

Grand annual communication, under such happy auspices, by the permission of the Great Grand Master of the Universe. We have much cause, brethren, to offer up manifestations of devout thankfulness, for the many blessings which have been dispensed to us by the Giver of all good, during the last year, for fruitful seasons to reward the labor of man, 'That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart ;' and exemption from pestilence and diseases which have afflicted other portions of the earth. But whilst in the enjoyment of the blessings and favors vouchsafed to us, we should not forget that we are mortal, and this is not our continual abiding place, and we are often admonished of these truths.

"At our last annual communication, this altar was shrouded in habiliments of mourning, for the death of old and distinguished members of this Grand Lodge. It becomes again my painful duty to announce to you the death of another Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge : the Hon. JOSEPH B. LANCASTER died at his residence in Tampa, South Florida, on the 25th of September last. Thus, within the short space of two years, have four old, experienced and reverend Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, by whose wisdom we have been guided in the path of duty, been dismissed from their labors here below, to appear in the Grand Lodge above, where the Grand Master of the Universe forever reigns. But, brethren, although we must lament their absence from amongst us, and the loss of their services, we have no cause for grief. They have been called off in the fullness of years and honors, to their reward, leaving behind them their bright examples for our imitation. I am sure, brethren, that it will not be necessary for me to remind you of the importance of diligence in our work, forbearance in our discussions, and courtesy in our intercourse, in the business which will come before us for the prosperity of the Craft ; these are characteristics of this Grand Lodge, to which it affords me pleasure to advert. I have every assurance of the prosperous condition of our beloved Order, both at home and abroad, although it has not been in my power, from the emergency of my domestic engagements, to visit in person the Lodges under this jurisdiction. During the past year I have issued dispensations for the establishment of three new Lodges, viz. : One in the town of Campbellton, in Jackson County, to be called Ira Carpenter Lodge ; one in the town of Vernon, in Washington County, West Florida, to be called Union Lodge, and one at the lower Mineral Springs, in the county of Columbia, East Florida, to be called Mackey Lodge.

"Since the last communication, the Grand Secretary received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada, an address from the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens, and members of that body, setting forth their action in the organization of an independent Grand Lodge for Canada West, and asking the fraternal recognition of the Grand Lodge of Florida ; which has been handed over by the Grand Secreta-

ry, with the proceedings of other Grand Lodges, to the committee on Foreign Correspondence, who will no doubt report fully their views upon that important subject.

"I thank you, brethren, with heartfelt gratitude, for the distinguished honor you have conferred upon me, in twice electing me to the high and responsible station of presiding over this M. W. Grand Lodge, and now I must throw myself upon your kindness and forbearance, and beg you to believe, that whilst I am deeply impressed with a sense of my insufficiency to discharge the duties of so elevated a position, I will ever cherish a proud recollection of the support which you have cheerfully awarded me in the discharge of those duties."

The Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

On By-Laws and Dispensations—Brothers ELLENWOOD, MOORE, and McRANEY.

On Ways and Means—Brothers WALKER, PAINE, and ELLENWOOD.

On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers SMITH, HENRY, and STEWART.

On Visitors—Brothers McRANEY and HOLLAND.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers TYDINGS, WORTHINGTON, and DAVIS.

On Education—Brothers BLAKE, SMITH, and McKINNON, Sr.

On Accounts—Brothers HOLLAND, BROWN, and WALKER.

The following brothers were appointed to draw up suitable resolutions, on the death of our late lamented Grand Master, Joseph B. Lancaster : Messrs. Ives, Call, and M. Whit Smith.

Brother M. Whit Smith offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the consent of the Grand Lodge be given, that members present, who have no jewels present, be allowed to sit and act for the time being, without jewels."

Which was adopted.

Brother D. W. Dawkins, W. M. of Chipola Lodge, No. 38, delivered the lecture in the first degree of Freemasonry.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee raised last session, for the purpose of reporting rules for conducting trials amongst Masons, made a report, which was received and adopted, and ordered to be printed as an Appendix to the proceedings.

Brother Thomas Brown, the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was received and unanimously adopted :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, that they have received from the Grand Secretary the printed jour-

nals of the proceedings of twenty-eight Grand Lodges, viz. : Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and the Territories of Kansas and Oregon.

"The chairman of the committee, who now presents this report, did not, until within a very short period before the meeting of this M. W. Grand Lodge, expect that it would again fall to his duty to make another report on Foreign Correspondence—which has been occasioned by the death of our M. W. P. Grand Master, the lamented Brother Thomas Douglas, late chairman of this committee.

"These Grand Lodge reports, it will be seen, are very voluminous ; many of them comprising from two to four hundred pages, and numbering, in the aggregate, nearly four thousand closely printed pages of large octavo ; and, although embodying a very large amount of highly valuable, interesting, and instructive Masonic matter, it is nevertheless involved in a mass of rubbish.

"We have now in the United States thirty-five independently organized Grand Lodges, in full, free, and harmonious correspondence ; each one reviewing and commenting upon the proceedings of all the others, necessarily involving all their reports in repetition, which, *like the house that Jack built*, by every annual review, is augmented more than fourfold in its dimensions. To read and understand this mass of confused matter, so as to be able to analyze and separate the dross from the pure metal, and present it in an intelligible form, would require more time and patient labor than your chairman has to bestow, and a degree of ability which he does not possess. We find, however, in the hasty scanning which we have been able to bestow upon these reports, very few mooted questions of Masonic jurisprudence which have not been discussed and reported upon by this committee within the last eight or ten years, and settled by this Grand Lodge, under the best lights which have been shed upon it.

"The committee must content themselves, on this occasion, by presenting a condensed statistical review of the prosperous condition of Masonry in our glorious heritage, and such interesting and instructing extracts as they may be able to glean, for the benefit of the Craft in this jurisdiction.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama held its annual communication in the city of Montgomery, commencing Monday, 3d of December, 1855 ; 171 chartered Lodges were represented ; 234 registered Lodges, and an aggregate of 6,693 members ; 79 suspensions for non-payment of dues, and 59 for other causes ; 24 reinstatements, and 93 deaths.

"The M. W. Grand Master, Sterling A. M. Wood, delivered an annual address. He does not favor the system of a distribution of the income

of the Grand Lodge funds among the subordinate Lodges. On this subject he says :

"The experience derived from the distribution of 1846, should deter us from a similar act. By inquiries made during this year, I am enabled to confirm the words of the Grand Master last year, that 'a distribution is almost tantamount to a waste of the funds.' Let us attempt, then, to resolve this matter in such a manner as shall produce a regular system of expenditure, for some practical benefit to Masonry and mankind. Two plans have been presented for the judicious use of the funds, each having a very respectable minority to advocate its claims.

"*First.* The education of children of indigent Masons, with the interest of the funds, expended through the agency of subordinate Lodges.

"*Second.* Defraying the expenses of a delegate from each Lodge, to the Grand Lodge, thereby securing a full representation at your annual communication.

"The Grand Lodge of Florida pays her delegates to the Grand Lodge from subordinate Lodges, and raises no more revenue from them than is necessary to that object, and to defray current expenses and provide for the Charity-fund. It is made the duty of the subordinate Lodges to provide for the education of children of indigent Masons in their respective jurisdictions.

"We believe the Grand Lodge of Alabama constituted a fund for the endowment of a seminary of learning, which was subsequently abandoned, and, we respectfully think, wisely; hence the distribution system which the M. W. Grand Master thinks is, from experience, 'almost tantamount to a waste of the funds.' And, with deference, we think the *first plan* suggested, for 'the education of children of indigent Masons, through the agency of subordinate Lodges,' the proper and legitimate disposition which should be made of the proceeds of the fund. The W. Master and Wardens of the subordinate Lodges, are the proper guardians of children of indigent Masons, in their respective Lodge jurisdictions. The attention to the subject of education by all the Grand Lodges in the Union, whose proceedings have come under our observation, we regard as a beautiful exemplification of the Divine institution of our Order. Yet we question if the endowment of colleges, and large seminaries of learning, under the auspices and patronage of Masonic bodies, be the wisest plan for the accomplishment of the great design, or is in accordance with the character and principles of the Fraternity. Such institutions savor more of pageantry than utility, and, as large funds amassed for such purposes, must of necessity be placed under the control and management of comparatively a few, it will have a corrupting influence, and a tendency to promote discord, and bring reproach upon the Craft. The principles of Masonry do not sympathize with speculation in stocks and exchange brokerage. Such, we fear, will be the evils attendant upon such institutions, to say nothing of the questionable right and policy of drawing funds from the subordinate Lodges, which could be appropriated by their proper officers, more judiciously, economically, and faithfully, to the

accomplishment of the same great and desirable object, in the true Masonic spirit of charity, which is the bond of peace.

"On the subject of Masonic processions, the M. W. Grand Master in his address, makes the following, we think, very sensible remarks :

"Masonic processions are usually held on four occasions: 1st. To bury the dead ; 2d. To lay corner-stones of Masonic Halls and public buildings ; 3d. To dedicate Masonic Halls ; 4th. On Masonic festivals.

"Custom has sanctioned these occasions, and every Lodge usually acts for itself, without asking any other or different law than that of immemorial usage in this State.

"But if it were possible, as in the present instance, that a Lodge should desire to have a procession upon an occasion not known to the usages of the Order, and although it may have been in every way respectably connected, it does seem that there should be some power to prevent it. Processions are a peculiar feature of the Order, and should not be held except on occasions devoted to the interest, or sanctioned by the ancient usages of Masonry.

"How can we, with propriety, make ourselves common property to swell a pageant for a day, and in the end advance no interest which is within the field of our labor. Under these circumstances, our public appearances would become too common, and the Order would suffer, not only in reputation, but really in virtue ; for, in many instances, the apparel with which the Mason may with honor clothe himself, as symbolic of the truths taught in the Lodge, would come to be regarded with more favor than the truths themselves—show would take the place of substance. This matter is brought before you, that your minds may be directed to a subject which, if not properly regulated, may one day grow into an evil. Masonry, whilst it lends its aid to the attainment of every good end in the world, should never be induced to impair its usefulness, by subjecting itself to any change, no matter how slight, which its enemies may strive to make out against it. Our aim being Truth and Virtue, we cannot fail to make enemies. We have felt in years gone by, their furious onslaughts, but of late few have sought to make war upon us. Some poisoned shafts have been aimed at our ancient and honorable institution, but I should do injustice to you, and the position to which you have elevated me, did I turn aside to refute the accusations of a blind malice, or suffer my zeal for the institution to lead me into argument with those who, through ignorance, may ridicule it."

"The committee hardly need say, they concur fully in these views.

"Brother Sayre, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented a report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Lodges, occupying forty-five pages, several of which are devoted to a discussion of a question springing out of a regulation of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, forbidding any Lodge under its jurisdiction, to 'initiate, pass, or raise, any one who had not resided in that State,

twelve months.' To this regulation the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, suggested the exception of 'distinguished gentlemen of known character.' The committee of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, was unpleasantly struck with this proposed exception, and protests against it altogether, not seeing 'why any allowance should be made in favor of *distinguished* gentlemen of known character, any more than for *un-distinguished* gentlemen of known characters;' and say that 'there are a great many *distinguished* gentlemen in the world, who have the title of "Honorable" or "Excellency" prefixed to their names, but who are very far from being either honorable or excellent, and who would be very far from making good Masons, and that, even if it was meant to except only distinguished personages, *known to be fit to become Masons*, still they see no propriety in the distinction, because Masonry regards no one for the distinction he may have attained to, in any of the walks of life, *unless* his life and conduct are such as will enable him to pass the square of the overseer; then, if that is the case, worldly distinctions are superfluous, and if not, they will avail nothing.'

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of Arkansas, noticing the foregoing objections of the committee of Alabama to the *exceptions* suggested by the committee of Mississippi, remark :

" 'It is to be hoped our Mississippi brethren will survive that. It is evident that, although their exception might have been more appropriately worded, they meant it merely to apply to persons of well-earned and honorably-worn distinction, whose characters should be thoroughly known, and who would be valuable members of the Craft, adding lustre to it, being its living eulogy, and largely increasing its usefulness. Such a man, being fit to pass the overseer's square, would be valued because he would be useful, in proportion to his high distinction and reputation. That reputation would not be superfluous. If Brother Sayre, the chairman of the committee, were to honor Arkansas, by removing to it, his reputation and distinction would be far from superfluous. We should be anxious to see him unite with us.

" 'Masonry regards no distinction, except that founded on merit. When so founded, it does regard and value it, because it regards and values the merit itself, and the capacity for usefulness. These sounding *ad captandum* generalities are generally incarnate falsehoods. If the Father of his Country were living, and were to remove into Alabama to-morrow, not being a Mason, but with all his magnificent honors thick upon him, will any one pretend that his reputation would not be regarded in weighing his value to the Craft, if he applied for admission? Brother Sayre would be as ready as the foremost to ask a dispensation for him. He would, *perhaps*, be willing to have the Grand Master make him a Mason at sight. If Edward Everett, or Washington Irving, or Prescott, or even Gen. Scott, were to go there now, who does not know that his admission to the Order would be hailed as a

far greater acquisition than that of any unknown and unregarded man. We protest *totis viribus* against the doctrine, only fit to tickle the vulgar ear, that talents, intellect, learning, and a lofty and *distinguished* reputation are of no value in Masonry. There are many distinguished men in the country, whose exclusion from the Order for a year, if they desired to enter it, would be an immense loss. Masons do not build monuments to Washington, and plume themselves on the fact that he was a Mason, merely on account of his *Masonic* virtues. It is because his civic reputation shed glory upon the Order.'

"We have made the foregoing extract from the report of Bro. Pike, chairman of the Arkansas committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the purpose of laying before the Fraternity in this jurisdiction his able views upon this subject. With the same object, we beg to add an extract from the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, of Connecticut, by its chairman, Brother Storer. He says :

"We have quoted the foregoing, because it affords us a favorable opportunity of expressing an opinion which we have long entertained, that the notion has prevailed in *too many minds*, that Masonry is entirely independent of public sentiment ; that so long as Masons are satisfied with each other, and can live and work harmoniously together, it matters not what the world thinks of them ; that it is of no consequence what *position* a Mason occupies in social life, provided his moral character is blameless ; that the humblest and most obscure individual is just as valuable a member of the institution as the man of exalted worth and distinguished talents, on whom the world has delighted to bestow its highest honors. This, in the opinion of your committee, is altogether an erroneous estimate of human character and social influence. True, one of the first lessons taught the Masonic Apprentice is, that "Masonry regards no man for his worldly wealth and honors ;" but what intelligent Mason does not understand this to mean, simply, that however wealthy a man may be, or how elevated his position in social or political life, Masonry looks upon him with no degree of favor, unless he possesses those *moral qualities* which fit him to wear with becoming humility, that badge "which has in all ages been deemed an emblem of innocence." Unless the candidate be an honest man, of irreproachable moral character, Masonry shuts her doors against his entrance into her mystic temple, however *distinguished* he may be as a man of wealth, talents, or social position ; but who does not know, that the more intelligent, the more learned, and the more elevated the man in social position, other things being equal, the more valuable he is as a member of the Masonic Fraternity ? Doubtless the humblest individual, if he be honest and true-hearted, and moral and upright in his deportment, can practice the Masonic virtues as faithfully and as truly as the most exalted ; and no man should be denied a participation in the rights and benefits of Masonry, on account of the obscurity of his walk in social life. And though Masonry is calculated to add lus-

tre to the character of the most elevated man on earth, still *she* is not so far elevated above the public sentiment of the world, as not also to receive additional lustre from the accession to her ranks of the truly great and good. Else why does she, with so much self-complacency, remind the newly-made brother that 'even kings have patronized her assemblies.' Else why do American Masons point with such evident satisfaction to the fact, that 'Washington, and Warren, and Lafayette, and a bright host of their compatriots, were enrolled among their members.'

"To these arguments, Brother Sayre, of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, of Alabama, in the proceedings now before us, replies to the argument of Brother Pike :

" 'This committee have great respect for anything emanating from Brother Pike, but still they are not convinced that the distinction he advocates is either correct in principle, or that it would work well in practice. The lesson inculcated in one of the side degrees, which almost all Master Masons have taken, is an admirable one, and exhibits the evil of the distinction in a strong light. There may be, as has been said, no Masonry in that degree, but it is none the less valuable on that account. But suppose we put a case : Two Master Masons remove into the same jurisdiction, at the same time. One is a well known public character, and the other an obscure individual. After six months residence in the new jurisdiction, they apply for affiliation with the local Lodge ; the conduct of each, in the mean time, having been equally proper in every respect ; but one is accepted and the other rejected. Can Brother Pike say that that would be in accordance with the principles of Masonry, or if it would be calculated to produce harmony among the brethren ? Certainly he is compelled to answer the question in the negative.'

"We must confess that we are so dull as to be unable to perceive the force of this '*case*'—or its application to the question at issue. We should unhesitatingly answer the question in the affirmative. Unanimity is the first principle in admission to membership in a Lodge, and if any member of a Lodge believes that the admission of any one to membership in a Lodge, would be calculated to disturb its harmony, it is not only his privilege, but it is his duty to reject him, whether he be 'a well-known public character,' or an 'obscure individual,' and no one can question him as to the color of his ball. And it has been practiced in all time, as not only 'calculated to produce harmony among the brethren,' but the only mode of preserving it.

"Our highly respected brothers of the committee of Alabama were so 'unpleasantly struck' with the import of the terms '*distinguished gentlemen of known characters*,' as favoring castes in society, it seems to us, as entirely to overlook the main object of the South Carolina 'regulations,' and consequently the effect of the Mississippi 'exception.' The regulations of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, were merely precautionary, to guard against the admission of strangers among the Craft ; and could not be compulsory, as no Lodge would be bound to receive a petitioner after twelve months' residence, any more than they would have been the day he commenced his residence—the term of residence

simply being to afford an opportunity for his character to become known—and as there are many men ‘distinguished gentlemen,’ who are as *well known* in one State as another, as possessing all the moral and intellectual qualifications which would adorn a Mason, and could not become better known by twelve months’ residence, the committee of Mississippi considered it would be wise to make an exception in favor of such ‘distinguished gentlemen of known character.’ But this *exception*, alone, would not entitle them to admission; nor would twelve months’ residence entitle them to that privilege. And as ‘there are a great many distinguished gentlemen in the world, who have the title of Honorable, or Excellency, prefixed to their names, but who are very far from being either honorable or excellent, and who would be very far from making good Masons,’ we believe and hope, that all such, whether under short or long probation, before application, will, whenever their petitions are presented, meet with a prompt and decisive rejection.

“As it regards affiliating Masons, we never supposed that any particular length of residence was required before application for membership could be made. The ancient charges declare that a Mason ought to be a member of some Lodge; and it is contended for by some, that a Mason cannot withdraw from a Lodge, except for the purpose of joining some other Lodge. All the Grand Lodges have taken action of some kind, or expressed some opinion, in regard to non-affiliating Masons. Some have subjected them to the payment of Lodge dues, others have passed resolutions depriving them of all the benefits of Masonry—even of Masonic burial. How do such edicts square, we respectfully ask, with regulations requiring *residence* of twelve months, or for any given period, before *affiliation*?

“A Mason finds it beneficial to himself and family to remove from the jurisdiction of the Lodge of which he is a member. He has ever been a zealous and faithful member of the Fraternity; he pays all dues, regularly withdraws, of which he has taken the proper evidences, and of his good standing in his Lodge and among his brethren. When he reaches his new home, he seeks out the nearest Lodge to his residence, and applies for membership; he is told, we cannot admit you to membership with us, until you can give evidence that you have a residence in this jurisdiction, *so many months*. But, he says, I have evidence to satisfy you that I was a member in good standing of the Lodge to which I last belonged, and that I have paid all dues against me, and have regularly withdrawn. He is informed that that is not sufficient—he must have a residence of twelve months before he can be recognized as a Mason, and received into fellowship with his brethren, during which time he must be regarded as *profane*, and should he die before his probation expires, will not be entitled to Masonic burial. ‘*Can Brother Sayre say that that would be in accordance with the principles of Masonry?*’ It will be perceived that the *case which we put*, is not a case of

admission to, or rejection from membership ; but a case of *residence* before that privilege can be asked for. Every member of a Lodge has the right and power to reject the petition of any one, for membership in the Lodge, if he believes that his admission would disturb the harmony of the Lodge ; and, in the exercise of that right, he is the sole judge, and if he use it capriciously, arbitrarily or maliciously, he is answerable to no one for it, so long as he keeps his motives concealed within his own breast. It may be an evil, but it is an evil to which humanity is heir, and it is better that we should bear it—if, in truth, it has ever occurred—than to attempt to remedy it, by disturbing that unanimity which causes ‘brethren to dwell together in unity.’

“In reply to the argument of the Connecticut committee, Brother Sayre says :

“‘What we have already said in answer to Brother Pike, fully meets the argument made by Brother Storer. Both of them, however, seem, to some extent, to have misapprehended our views. They are, not that Masons are independent of public opinion, or that it is immaterial to them what position a man may occupy in social life ; but—and we will endeavor to illustrate what we mean in this way—when a man invites his friends to a feast, the same hospitality should be bestowed upon them all. Now, Masonry invites all that are deserving to come around her board. She promises to give them all the same fare, and that the seats which they occupy shall be of equal dignity.’

“We think it highly probable, to some extent, there have been misapprehension of views and arguments on both sides, and we will close what we have to say on the subject, by replying to Brother Sayre’s illustration, that if all of the guests would come *properly clothed*, so that they could be known as the invited friends, we doubt not all would be received, and all conducted to seats of equal dignity.

“The annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Arkansas was held in the city of Little Rock, commencing Monday, November 5th, 1855. Forty-seven chartered Lodges were represented the first day. Fourteen dispensations were granted during the recess, and ninety-five registered Lodges. The Grand Secretary furnishes a very good ‘abstract of subordinate Lodges,’ ninety-one in number, but it is not footed up.

“The M. W. Grand Master, Nathaniel G. Smith, delivered a very good address, in which he comments upon the duties of Masons, and the moral beauties of Masonry. He says :

“‘All over the length and breadth of the State, the Order is flourishing, and among our red brethren, in the Indian Territory, it is taking deep hold, and now embraces a goodly number of Lodges and brethren. The members of those Lodges compare very favorably with their pale-faced neighbors. In fact, it is reported of them that they exemplify practically the Masonic teachings and ritual, by living in the constant discharge of those charities and moral virtues so forcibly inculcated in our lectures, thereby demonstrating to all that Masonry is not only *speculative*, but that it is a living, practical reality ; of great utility to the human race, and of eminent service to a social community.’

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence do not appear to have made a report at this Grand annual communication.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of California, held its seventh annual communication in the city of Sacramento, commencing Tuesday, May 6th, 1856. Fifty-nine chartered Lodges were represented the first day; twenty-three dispensations for new Lodges were issued during the recess of the Grand Lodge. The present number of working Lodges is about one hundred, with an aggregate membership of about four thousand.

"The address of the M. W. Grand Master, Wm. H. Howard, is principally devoted to local matters.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by its chairman, Brother Alexander G. Abell, being 'the result of their labors, after a careful and toilsome examination of the printed proceedings of twenty-seven American Grand Lodges, and sundry communications from foreign bodies, received since the close of the last session, together with the annual circular of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, for 1855; several communications from the Grand Orient of Belgium, and certain proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Germany, and of the National Mother Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, at Berlin, Prussia.' It is a very voluminous and well-written report, occupying fifty-two pages of the proceedings.

"It would be vain for your committee to attempt to give even a meagre sketch of this able Masonic document from our younger sister on the Pacific side of our magnificent fraternal heritage. It is a comprehensive, well-digested and lucid view of all the important subjects presented, and, as Brother Abell very aptly remarks of the report of Brother Pike, of Arkansas, 'is *not* made with scissors.' We will therefore content ourselves with making one short extract from the introductory portion of the report, and pay some little attention to the notice taken of Florida, and pass on. They say :

"It had been the intention of your committee to present but a brief report this year—their experience in the last, disposing them to shrink from the great labor required for the production of such a paper as, in their opinion, a report on Foreign Correspondence ought to be. This they were the more inclined to do, as most of the subjects of discussion which have engaged the attention of Masonic writers during the past three or four years, seemed pretty generally settled; and as, whether they are or not, upon the greater portion of them your committee have heretofore written all they know. But, upon an examination of the immense mass of printed matter placed before them in the volumes given above, it became evident that a 'brief report' in regard to them would be impossible—would be in fact a solecism in terms. Believing, too, that the prime object in the formation of such committees was that of enabling those within their own jurisdiction to become acquainted with the transactions, decisions and regulations of the Grand Lodges elsewhere, by their reproduction in a condensed and attainable form, your committee address themselves to the toil imposed thereby, and will endeavor to give a faithful reflex of the condition of the Fraternity in other States, as exhibited by their own published proceedings.

"Noticing the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, of Florida, they remark :

"It is, as compared with many other papers of this description, somewhat brief, the committee saying that they feel relieved from the examination of most of the important questions upon which other Grand Lodges are still at issue, they having heretofore been fully discussed and satisfactorily settled, so far as Florida is concerned. It is refreshing to hear that something is settled somewhere; and we congratulate our Peninsular brethren upon being favored with a period of quiet. We ardently hope that, at some future time, many dreadfully agitating subjects which now do sorely trouble us, will be laid at rest, and the Masonic world comforted with satisfactory information whether a Lodge U. D. is a Lodge, or only a premonitory symptom—whether an Entered Apprentice is a Mason, or but a coming event—whether Lodges should open 'up' or 'down,' and should 'close,' 'call off,' 'adjourn,' or 'stand adjourned,'—and whether a pimple on the nose would or would not fatally mar the Masonic beauty of an otherwise 'perfect youth.' Seriously, we think our Florida brethren are wiser than many others of us, in thus acting after Professor Witherspoon's last advice to his pupils in the law—'quit talking when you are done,'—and we mean hereafter to profit by their example.

"We will assure our Pacific brethren, that we are not, in this jurisdiction, particularly disquieted with any 'dreadfully agitating subjects which now do sorely trouble us'—and we say it under a consciousness that we may be obnoxious to the retort, that

'Where ignorance is bliss,
'Tis folly to be wise.'

"And we think we are authorized by the practice of this Grand Lodge to give our worthy brethren of the committee the 'satisfactory information,' that 'a Lodge U. D.' is regarded by us, as 'only a premonitory symptom'—for the reasons that it cannot elect its own officers—has no representatives in the Grand Lodge, and cannot make members. The M. M. who obtain the dispensation continuing members of the Lodges to which they belong, until the charter is granted to the new Lodge. That an E. A. is regarded as 'a coming event,' for the reasons, that all business is transacted in a Master's Lodge—except the work necessary in the lower Degrees, for Initiating and Passing; that all processions are formed in a Master's Lodge—except on festival occasions—in which only are found places for E. A.'s and F. C.'s; and because none but Master Masons are members of a Lodge, and pay dues.

"We would regard 'a pimple on the nose' of an otherwise 'perfect youth,' as a *prominent blemish*. But we incline to the opinion that our lamented P. G. M. Douglas would look upon it as a suspicious circumstance, which 'would fatally mar his Masonic beauty,' if not satisfactorily accounted for. Our Lodges 'open up,' and 'close,' or 'call off.' We never 'adjourn,' or 'stand adjourned,' and here we would beg leave to notice an opinion incidentally expressed by the committee of California on this subject, in regard to a practice in the Grand Lodge of Indiana. They say, 'We remark that this Grand Lodge resolves itself into a committee of the whole, upon the Grand Master's address, the Deputy in the Chair; a practice to which some commit-

tees on Foreign Correspondence, in other States, take considerable exception. *For our part we can see no reason why our brethren of Indiana should not be permitted to do their legislation in their own way.* Nor do we, if they do it as a parliamentary body. But we respectfully think we do see very palpable reasons why *parliamentary forms* should not be introduced into a *Masonic Lodge*. Masonry has a peculiar language of its own, which can no more be changed than any other of the ancient landmarks. When a Lodge is opened in SOLEMN ANCIENT FORM, its work is Masonry, and strict regard must be paid to *language* as well as to *form*.

"If the M. W. Grand Master should think it would facilitate the *legislation* of the Grand Lodge, to go into Committee of the Whole, he can call the Craft off from labor, and *resolve* the members into a Committee of the Whole, and put his Deputy, or any other member, into the Chair, appoint a Door-keeper, Sergeant-at-Arms, and any other necessary officer, adopt rules, call for the previous question, take appeals from the decision or the Chair, adjourn, or stand adjourned, and do all such acts as are sanctioned by parliamentary law. But all that is not *Masonry*. And we humbly conceive that Masons can do all their necessary *legislation* with the assistance of the ancient regulations of the Fraternity, without adopting the *technicalities* and *terms* of *legislation* of modern associations, which young lawyers and politicians may imagine would be an improvement upon Masonry.

"Our highly respected brethren of the committee of California, then go on to say :

"There is, too frequently, a disposition to find fault with the mere local practices or regulations of other bodies, for no better reason, generally, than that they differ from those of the body to which the writers themselves belong. Taking the printed proceedings before us *as a test*, the business of the Grand Lodge of Indiana is done with an order and regularity which may challenge comparison with that of any in the Union ; and abundant evidence is given that its preparation has been confided to an able and skillful Grand Secretary.

"Granted ! We acknowledge the ability of the Grand Secretary in bringing up the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, as well as the neat execution of the mechanical portion of the work. But we must confess that we were not a little surprised—we will add, mortified—to meet with such an argument from our intelligent brethren of the committee of California, addressed to the consideration of experienced, discriminating Masons, upon a subject of Masonic custom and usage ; and we are very certain that what we have said has been from no 'disposition to find fault with the mere local practices or regulations' of our brethren of Indiana, for whose Masonic information and experience we have the highest respect. But it is human to err, and by a free and friendly interchange of opinions among brethren, errors may be corrected and the right established. We cannot understand why there should be a necessity for any 'local practices or regula-

tions' in one Lodge not common to all. We see that the subject of *uniformity of work* is engaging the attention of the most experienced and enlightened Masons of the day ; why should we all not assist in the accomplishment of so desirable an object ? Will our brethren of California and Indiana think a little more deeply upon this subject ? The chairman of this committee has been more than half a century a member of this beloved and glorious Order, and has devoted much time and labor to its duties, and much consideration and reflection upon its beauties and moral influences, and he has often been painfully impressed with a conviction that he has learned so little.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Delaware, held its annual Grand communication in the city of Wilmington, Wednesday, June 27th, 1855. Eight chartered Lodges were represented ; ten Lodges made returns, with an aggregate membership of four hundred and twelve M. M., eighteen F. C., four E. A., seven withdrawals, six deaths, and two rejected. The grand Lodge was opened in *DUE FORM*, R. W. Thos. J. Phillips, G. S. W. as Grand Master.

"There was no address from the Grand Master. The committee on Foreign Correspondence, acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of thirteen Grand Lodges, among which we observe Florida for 1855. The chairman, Brother Samuel Guthrie, 'referring to that Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, which ascertains the duties of a committee of Correspondence,' comes to the conclusion that communications which require or imply an answer, only lie within the province of the committee, but says :

"For some years past, following the example of similar committees, in other States, the committee of Correspondence of this Grand Lodge, has transgressed the limits of its constitutional powers, and has at length reached a point out of sight, entirely, of its original design and purpose. It has become a legislative body. A mass of laws might be compiled from the labors of these committees, equal to the Pandicts, or the Institutes.

"And, after a long catalogue of usurpations, equal to those set forth in the Declaration of Independence, the committee say :

"It has taken up the trade of the literary critic. It affects the reputation of the essayist. It writes profound and unintelligible prose. It explains the relations of Freemasonry to the moral and religious elements in man, and its affinity for the religions of the world. It looks very wise, and talks like a philosopher. Many other things, also, it has come to be and to do, away from the purpose of its institution, which however, we will let pass. This, only, we will add, that its reports have, in many cases, been made the channels of flattery, '*usque ad nauseam*,' on the one side, and of resentment, uncharitableness, and envious disparagement, on the other.

"Now, we have not, as we recollect, been favored with any of those reports from the committee on Correspondence of Delaware, but in the spirit of Uncle Toby, we could not find it in our hearts to wish our Brother Guthrie had the mass of Grand Lodge reports which now lie scattered before us, to examine and report upon—the penetration into which has

brought us to the conclusion that there is more good sense and sound wisdom in this brief report of the committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, than is dreamed of in the philosophy of many who write long corresponding committee reports, and we commend it to their serious consideration.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia held its semi-annual communication in the city of Washington, commencing May 1st to 27th December, 1855. Ten chartered Lodges were represented; fifteen registered Lodges. M. W. Charles S. Frailey, Grand Master, presiding. In his address, he announces the appointment of Brother G. Parker Cummings, Architect, of San Francisco, formerly of the city of Philadelphia, representative from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, to the Congress of Masons, at Paris, France. But, in the proceedings, we see no report from their representative, of the proceedings of that interesting Congress, although they are reported at length in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York. The Corresponding Committee failed to make their report, which the M. W. Grand Master, in his address, seems much to regret.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Georgia, held its annual Grand communication in the city of Macon, Tuesday, October 30th, 1855. One hundred and ninety-three chartered Lodges answered on the call of the roll. The number of registered Lodges was one hundred and ninety-nine; the number of initiations during the last year, one thousand three hundred and twenty-seven, and the aggregate number of members, eleven thousand one hundred and thirty-two. R. W. Simon Hall, D. G. M., of the First District, as Grand Master. No address from the chair. The District D. G. M.'s, made able reports, and the committee on Foreign Correspondence made their report, reviewing the proceedings of nineteen Grand Lodges, but we do not observe any mooted question which would require any expression of opinion by this committee.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Indiana, held its annual communication in the city of Indianapolis, May 20th, 1856. One hundred and eighty-five chartered Lodges were represented, and twenty U. D., fourteen of which obtained charters, making, of registered Lodges, one hundred and ninety-nine, and six U. D., by which it appears that all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of Indiana, made returns and were represented. This we regard as a very remarkable circumstance, worthy of note, and we particularly present it to the notice of the Lodges under this jurisdiction. Total number of M. M.'s, seven thousand four hundred and forty; increase of members during the year, eight hundred and sixty-three. R. W. Lewis Burk, G. S. W., as Grand Master presiding. The address of the M. W. Grand Master, was read by the Grand Secretary. The committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report reviewing the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Lodges, on which they say: 'On examination, your committee would infer that the Craft, in

every jurisdiction from which printed proceedings have been received, is enjoying a higher degree of prosperity than has been exhibited by the printed proceedings for years past.' The chairman of the committee 'was not able to examine minutely all the various documents sent him by the Grand Secretary, and make an extensive report,' and offers as an apology, 'ill health, and a press of business,' and promises to do better some future time. From our experience of the documents before us, we think that Brother Bayless has acted wisely in giving them the go by.

"We have before us the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Iowa, held at the city of Keosauqua, June 5th, 1855, and also for 1856, held June 3d, in the city of Oskaloosa. Fifty-four chartered Lodges were represented; twenty-three dispensations granted by the M. W. Grand Master, during the recess, for new Lodges, to which charters were granted, and, we remark the charters of two Lodges were revoked. The Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM, R. W. G. W. Teas, D. G. M. as Grand Master. The address of M. W. Grand Master Cotton, was read by the Grand Secretary. The report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, was presented by Brother J. F. Sanford, and without intending any invidious distinctions, we regard it as a decided improvement on the report of the previous year. It is admirable, both in style and sentiment. We give the following extract:

"Masonry is the greatest social combination which the human race has ever formed. Its adaptedness to the increasing intelligence, civilization, and mental power of the race is daily becoming more apparent. The physical Sciences and the utilitarian Arts are not more instrumental in adding to man's comfort and dominion on the earth, than are the principles of our Fraternity, in adding to his social and moral well-being and happiness. It is in this, not in any change or corruption of its ancient landmarks, that the progress of Masonry consists. It extends into every ramification of society; bestows upon it the refining power which influences the operations of intellect, and receives from it the benefits which increasing knowledge has stamped upon religion and every moral movement of the age.

"On this account, every Grand Lodge should annually accumulate and publish with its proceedings, a review of Masonry and Masonic transactions as far as its correspondence extends, in the language of Brother Pike, "give a general idea of the condition of Masonry elsewhere, and an abstract of all discussions and decisions on points of Masonic jurisprudence, and other matters of interest; with such extracts, containing eloquent remarks and sound doctrine, as the committee may think will interest the brethren throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand body to which it is made."

"SECOND: This is the most effective means of disseminating useful and important information amongst the Craft. The interest felt these late years in the annual convocations of our Grand Lodges, secures a

representation from the subordinates in every jurisdiction. It is known to every one who has attended the meetings of Masonic Grand Lodges, that no deliberative assemblies in the world are more distinguished for profound attention to their incident duties, than are the members of these Grand bodies ; and, in this way, the various items of Masonic intelligence from abroad, and the discussions and decisions upon questions of Masonic jurisprudence, are distributed to the Fraternity throughout the land, and constitute a source of hope to the heart, and of light to the understanding.

"These remarks are intended to show our dissent from leading brethren in some jurisdictions, who have disparaged these reports of committees on Foreign Correspondence. We hope the Grand Lodge of Iowa will maintain this means of Masonic usefulness and improvement.

"The object, and purposes of reports by Corresponding Committees of Grand Lodges, we observe, are being much discussed ; some contending that they should be regarded as the action of the Grand body from which they emanate, whilst others think they should be considered as the mere expression of opinion of the chairman of the committee who makes the report.

"Now we certainly would not contend that a report ought not to pass through the Grand Lodge, until every paragraph had been read, and a vote taken on it ; but we do hold, that when a report from a committee on Foreign Correspondence has been presented and read in the Grand Lodge, and published with its proceedings, it should be regarded as reflecting in the main, the sentiments of the Grand Lodge. Such notions as the following, which we extract from the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of Iowa, for 1855, we regard as very loose and heedless :

"But notwithstanding the labor requisite to its performance, *your committee has addressed himself* to the task, feeling that none are responsible for *his own opinions but himself*, and where they run counter to the present teaching of this Grand body, they are not promulgated for the sake of change or notoriety, but proceed from the convictions of an honest, if not very enlightened mind.

"Now, we see in this short extract, that the 'honest and enlightened' chairman has not only swallowed up the committee in '*himself*,' but holds the Grand Lodge as naught. We wonder if it ever occurred in the reflections of Brother Wallace, for what purpose a committee on Foreign Correspondence had been raised ? and how it happened that he was appointed its chairman ? and why it was necessary that his report should be read in the Grand Lodge ? and why he then handed it over to the Grand Secretary, to be published in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa ? If Brother Wallace, or any one else, desires to write Masonic essays, and have them published in the papers, we cannot see that any objection should be raised ; but we cannot see the propriety of making the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge the medium

through which such *irresponsible* effusions may be thrown in among the Craft, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, and we very respectfully think that the Grand Lodge of Iowa should have rebuked such wild notions on the presentation of the report. The idea that Grand Lodges are not responsible for the reports of their committees, which are permitted to go into, and be printed with their journals is calculated to produce much evil. We perceive indications of it in the proceedings of Iowa, at the very communication to which Brother Wallace made his report. 'A petition from Robert M. Secrist, a Mason, expelled by Iowa City Lodge, No. 4, seven years ago, had been presented, discussed and referred to Brother Wells Spicer, to report'—whereupon the said Brother Spicer presented the following '*PAPER RELATIVE TO SECRIST,*' with which we will not blemish *this paper*, by copying it. It is very manifest, however, that Brother Spicer must be a very peppery man, for he seasoned his report with all the pungent condiments, in the form of abusive epithets, which he could cull from the vocabulary of Billings-Gate and Wopping: and the reason assigned for marring the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, by the publication of such a paper, is 'that our brethren throughout the land may have due and timely notice, and govern themselves accordingly.' Was it not sufficient to have notified the 'brethren throughout the land,' that this Robert M. Secrist was an *expelled Mason*, to have put them on their guard against his impositions? But *none are responsible for such papers* but the chairman '*himself*.' We, respectfully, think very differently. All the members of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, who suffered such a paper to go to the world, are responsible for it, and are injured by it—the whole Fraternity are injured by it. What must the *profane* think of the purity of Masonry, when they behold such things coming from the 'sacred retreat of Friendship and Virtue,' written, too, by a *MASON*, against one who had been his *BROTHER*.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, held its annual communication in the city of New Orleans, Monday, February 11th, 1856. On the call of the roll, forty-eight chartered Lodges were represented, and three U. D. The register shows one hundred and thirty-five chartered Lodges, and twelve U. D. Aggregate members, three thousand five hundred and seventy-eight. During the year, there were one hundred and eighty-two affiliations; four hundred and ninety-four initiations, five hundred and thirty-six passed, four hundred and ninety-eight raised, two hundred and forty-five dimitted, ninety dead, twenty-nine suspended, nine expelled, and ten reinstated. The Grand Master M. W. Wm. M. Perkins delivered an address before the Grand Lodge. The committee on Foreign Correspondence made, by its chairman, Brother W. M. Perkins, a long report, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Lodges.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Mississippi held its Grand annual

communication in the city of Vicksburg, Monday, January 15th, 1855. One hundred and five chartered Lodges were represented; two hundred and three Lodges on the register, and five U. D. No regular returns of members or statistics. The M. W. Brother Posey delivered the Grand Lodge address. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, by its chairman, Brother Wm. P. Mellin, reviews the proceedings of twenty-seven American Grand Lodges, and two Canadian Provincial Grand Lodges.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held its quarterly communications in the city of Boston, and publishes abstracts from the 14th of March to the 27th of December, 1855. The M. W. Grand Master, Brother Winslow Lewis, delivered an address before the Grand Lodge on the occasion of the installation of the Grand Officers. There is no report from the committee on Foreign correspondence, and no regular statistical table.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, held its annual communication in the city of Portland, Tuesday, May 1st, 1856. Sixty-three chartered Lodges were represented; seventy-eight registered Lodges; total membership, three thousand, two hundred and eleven; initiations, six hundred and forty-six; suspended, twenty-seven; expelled, four; died, forty. The M. W. Grand Master, Brother John Miller, presiding, and delivered his address before the Grand Lodge. Brother Cyril Pearl, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Lodges.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Maryland, held its annual communication in the city of Baltimore, November 19th, 1855. Twenty-eight chartered Lodges were represented, and one U. D. Three Lodges made no returns. M. W. Charles Webb, Grand Master presiding, delivered a short address. The committee on Foreign Correspondence, by its chairman, Brother Charles Gilman, made a very brief report.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, held its annual communication in the city of Lexington, Monday, May 26th, 1856. Seventy-six chartered Lodges were represented; number of registered Lodges, one hundred and fifty; aggregate membership, five thousand three hundred and twenty-nine; nine hundred and fifty initiated; eight hundred and seventy-five passed; seven hundred and ninety-two raised; two hundred and forty-six admitted; three hundred and forty-five dimitted; seventy-seven died; twenty-five suspended; nineteen expelled. The Grand Master, M. W. L. S. Cornwell, presiding, and addressed the Grand Lodge. Brother Joseph Foster, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report which was, on motion, 'laid on the table until to-morrow morning;' the next day, was called up, *amended* and adopted. We wonder what Brother Wallace, *chairman and committee* of Foreign Correspondence of Iowa would have thought, if such a course in regard to his report had been adopted.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Michigan, held its annual communication in the city of Detroit, Wednesday, January 9th, 1856. Sixty-eight chartered Lodges were represented, and ten U. D. No register of members. R. W. George C. Munro, D. G. M., as Grand Master presiding. No address from the Chair. Brother James Fenton, Grand Secretary, and *ex-officio* chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand Lodges.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of New York, held its 'annual meetings' in the city of New York. M. W. Joseph D. Evans, Grand Master, presiding.

"Two hundred and ninety-two chartered Lodges were represented. The register reports four hundred and eight Lodges in good standing, and five U. D. No abstract of returns from subordinate Lodges. The Grand Master delivered his address, and Brother Finlay M. King, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented a report, reviewing the proceedings of a very long list of American and Foreign Grand Lodges, and giving the proceedings at large of the Universal Masonic Congress, at Paris, France, in June, 1855. Of this address and report we shall have occasion, hereafter, to take notice. But we will here touch a matter upon which the committee of New York desire information. They say :

" 'A person residing within the jurisdiction of one of the Lodges of Florida, "did therefore travel into the State of Georgia, and was initiated, passed, and raised, by Rising Sun Lodge, No. 20, of that State;" whereupon, Florida adopts a resolution, "that this action of Rising Sun Lodge is irregular, and contrary to the principles of Masonry, and should be rebuked by the Grand Lodge of Georgia." If our intelligent brethren of Florida will inform us wherein this act was "irregular, and contrary to the principles of Masonry," we shall feel ourselves enlightened. Unless there be a law in Georgia, forbidding such an act on the part of its subordinates, it is, in our opinion, neither one nor the other.'

"If our 'intelligent brethren' of New York had given the facts of that case, as stated in the preamble to the resolution, we are confident that no *intelligent* Mason would require any further information on the subject.

"We find in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, for 1855, at p. 54, that,

" 'Brother A. G. Johnson offered the following resolution; Whereas, *A rejected candidate for initiation by Hamilton Lodge, No. 22, a resident within her jurisdiction, whose petition was rejected in November, 1850, did thereafter travel into the State of Georgia, and was initiated, passed, and raised, by Rising Sun Lodge, No. 20, of that State, without obtaining residence in that jurisdiction, and without any application by Rising Sun Lodge to Hamilton Lodge for information or authority; Resolved,* &c.

"Now, it will be seen, that all of the preamble which describes the facts of that case, and which we have caused to be *italicized*, has been carefully left out, and in a feeble attempt to render this palpable garbling intelligible, the word 'thereafter' is changed to 'therefore.' The

committee being unable to perceive the adequate motive for so disreputable an act, would be constrained by feelings of charity, to charge it to carelessness on the part of the writer of the report, or the printer of it, if it did not carry the evidence of design and arrangement on its face, which the most casual observer could not fail to detect. We are, therefore, influenced by the same charitable feelings, necessarily compelled to ascribe it to that pardonable vanity which causes our *intelligent brethren* of New York to seek such opportunities to dispense light and knowledge to their less-informed brethren.

"We believe that most of the Grand Lodges in the United States, have some regulations on the subject of *residence*, before a petition can be received by their subordinates and acted on, for initiating, passing, and raising. In South Carolina it is twelve months, and, we believe, the same in Georgia; and, although we have no such regulation in Florida, we have a *Masonic usage*, enjoined by the *Book of Constitutions*, and which we suppose is universal, that every person desirous of becoming a Freemason must make application to the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides; and his petition must be recommended by two of the members of the Lodge; and a petition rejected cannot be presented again within a twelve month; and that a person residing in *one Masonic jurisdiction* cannot be initiated, passed, or raised in *another Masonic jurisdiction*—except under peculiar circumstances—unless the consent of the Lodge, under whose jurisdiction he resides, is first obtained.

"The person whose case is now in question, was rejected by Hamilton Lodge, No. 22, and 'thereupon' he crossed the line of Florida, into an adjacent Masonic jurisdiction in the State of Georgia, petitioned Rising Sun Lodge, No. 20, was received, initiated, passed, and raised, and straightway returned to his home in Florida, and applied for the right of visitation and of membership, as a Master Mason, in the Lodge from which, but a short time previous, his petition for initiation had been rejected. If this was not 'irregular and contrary to the principles of Masonry,' we confess we stand in need of *more Masonic light* than, we fear, our 'intelligent brethren' of New York have the ability to dispense to us.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of North Carolina, met in the city of Raleigh, December 3d, 1855. One hundred chartered Lodges were represented, and one hundred and seventy-five Lodges made returns. The M. W. Grand Master, Brother Clement H. Jordan, presiding, and submitted his annual communication, which was read. There was no report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held its annual communication in the city of Trenton, Wednesday and Thursday, January 9th and 10th, 1856. Twenty-four chartered Lodges were represented, and forty registered Lodges. The M. W. Edward Stewart, Grand Master,

presiding, who submitted his address, which was read. There was no report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, held its annual communication in the city of Concord, June 10th and 11th, 1856. Twenty-three chartered Lodges were represented, and one U. D., the registered Lodges are about fifty. No abstract of returns or number of members. M. W. Grand Master Ichabod G. Jordan, delivered an address, local in its character. Brother John Christie, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Lodges.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio, held its annual communication in the city of Mansfield, October 23d, 1855. Two hundred and twenty-two chartered Lodges were represented; no full report of Lodges or members. The M. W. Grand Master, William B. Dodd, in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, read a communication in writing, embracing a statement of his official acts. No report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held its annual communication, in the city of Philadelphia, December 27th, 1855. Forty-eight chartered Lodges were represented; no register of Lodges, nor returns of members. R. W. James Hutchinson, presiding as Grand Master, addressed the officers and members of the Grand Lodge. No report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, held its annual communications from 1852 to 1855, in the city of Providence and in the city of East Greenwich. Eleven chartered Lodges were represented, and returns from fifteen Lodges. No table of statistics. M. W. William Field, Grand Master, presiding. No address from the Grand Master. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of thirty-three American Grand Lodges and Canada West.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of South Carolina, proceedings of special and quarterly communications, from January 9th to December 27th, 1855, held in the city of Charleston. Sixteen chartered Lodges were represented; sixty-one registered Lodges. M. W. Alfred Price, Grand Master. The report was made by R. W. A. G. Mackey, the Grand Secretary.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas, held its nineteenth annual communication in the city of Galveston, Monday, January 21st, 1856. Forty-seven chartered Lodges were represented on the call of the roll, and ninety-four Lodges made returns. M. W. E. B. Nichols, Grand Master, presiding, who delivered an address before the Grand Lodge. Brother A. Neill, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-three American Grand Lodges, and Canada West, and a circular of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; also, a 'Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France,

with the decrees of Prince Lucien Murat, Grand Master, calling for a Masonic Congress at Paris, on the 1st June, 1855.' No statistical table.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont, held its annual communication in the city of Burlington, Wednesday, January 9th, 1855. Thirty-five chartered Lodges were represented, and three U. D.; thirty-six returns from subordinate Lodges. No statistical table. M. W. Philip C. Tucker, Grand Master, presiding, who addressed the Grand Lodge. Brother Englesby, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented their report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-eight American Lodges, and the Prov. Grand Lodge of Canada West.

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, held its Grand annual communication in the city of Richmond, Monday, December 10th, 1855. Seventy-three chartered Lodges were represented; one hundred and fifty-two working Lodges, with the names of the members, but no condensed statistical table. The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, M. W. James A. Leitch, Grand Master, presiding. The M. W. Joseph D. Evans, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, was then introduced by the M. W. G. M., and received in AMPLE FORM, and then the M. W. Grand Master delivered an 'eloquent and appropriate address.' The committee on Foreign Correspondence, acknowledge 'the receipt of communications, containing proceedings of thirty-two Grand Lodge jurisdictions,' but make no comment upon them. Their very brief report is confined to the state of affairs in 'our sister jurisdiction of New York,' and 'a Circular from Canada West, containing the proceedings of a convention of forty-one Lodges, assembled at Hamilton, for the avowed purpose of forming an independent Grand Lodge for that Province, and declaring themselves independent of the M. W. Grand Lodge of England.

"The committee have also received the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Territory of Oregon, which held its annual communication in the city of Portland, June 9th, 1856. M. W. J. C. Ainsworth, Grand Master.

"And the proceedings of a convention of three Lodges, which met in convention in the city of Leavenworth, November 14th, 1855, and organized a M. W. Grand Lodge for the Territory of Kansas, and on the 27th day of December, 1855, elected their officers. M. W. Brother Richard R. Rees, Grand Master.

"We also discover from the proceedings of Grand Lodges before us, that a M. W. Grand Lodge has been organized in the Territory of Minnesota, but we have not received the proceedings.

"To these three young members of the sisterhood of Grand Lodges of the Union, we tender a hearty and fraternal greeting.

"We regret to say that we have received no proceedings or communications for the last year, from our sister Grand Lodges of Kentucky,

Connecticut, Illinois, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, and we equally regret to have observed, that several of our sister Grand Lodges have failed to receive the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

"It was the design of the committee, when they commenced this report, to present a condensed statement of the statistics of the respective Grand Lodges, as their proceedings passed under its review ; but they soon discovered that it could not be done with anything like regard to accuracy, owing to the defective reports of many of the Grand Secretaries. Some gave no abstract of returns of subordinate Lodges; some gave abstracts, with the names of the officers of Lodges only, taking no notice of members, etc., whilst others furnished pretty full abstracts, not footed up. If all the Grand Secretaries would furnish, with the proceedings of their Grand Lodges, such statistical tables as are given in the reports of the Grand Secretaries of Iowa, for 1855, and Louisiana, Indiana, and Missouri, for 1856, the Corresponding Committees would be enabled to present a more reliable and interesting aspect of the condition of Masonry in the United States, than can be conceived from all the flattering and congratulatory notices of its prosperity with which we meet in the reports of the committees on Foreign Correspondence.

"Among the documents handed to the committee, we find a printed 'Abstract, of Transactions of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, from September 4th, 5855, to September 9th, 5856,' of which 'M. W. and Hon. Mordecai Myers is Grand Master, and R. W. James Herring is Grand Secretary ;' and the printed copy of a 'letter to the R. W. James Page, Esq., P. G. M., chairman of the committee of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, dated August 22d, 1856,' in reply to 'a pamphlet, dated June 6th, A. L. 5856, entitled a 'report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, of the Grand Lodge of New York, on the proposed mediation of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.'"

"The committee have thought it their duty to notice these documents, that upon the examination of the history of the difficulties which occurred in the jurisdiction of our sister Grand Lodge of New York, this Grand Lodge promptly decided that the Grand body of which the M. W. Joseph D. Evans is now the Grand Master, was the legitimate Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and the only supreme Masonic authority in the State which this Grand Lodge would recognize as such. Believing that when time should allay excited feelings, better councils would prevail, and all difficulties would be reconciled, this Grand Lodge refrained from interfering further in the domestic troubles in our sister jurisdiction, save to favor the proposition of Brother Foster of Missouri ; and we still entertain the hope, that the body of

which Mordecai Myers is the Grand Master, seeing that all the Grand Lodges in the United States have decided against the legality of their position—except Pennsylvania, and she holding a neutral position—will unite with the acknowledged Grand Lodge, and restore harmony in that, at present, distracted jurisdiction.

“In April last, the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge received the following address, transmitted by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

ADDRESS FROM THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

“To the Most Worshipful the Grand Officers and Brethren of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Florida:

“We, the Grand Master, officers and brethren, of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, with sincere respect, and fraternal regard, send GREETING :

“The Freemasons of Canada, to the number of forty-one Lodges, having united in the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, it is our pleasing duty to lay before you an explanation of the circumstances which dictated, and the course we pursued in taking a step which, while it determines the rule of the Grand Lodges of Great Britain over us, as Lodges, we confidently believe will not sever, and we earnestly trust will not weaken, that holy bond of brotherhood so long existing between us, as Masons ; and we feel assured that the purity of the motives by which we were actuated, and the justness of our cause, will ensure the Grand Lodge of Canada a cordial reception by your august body.

“The absence, in this Province, of that progress in our Masonic art which has invariably attended the existence of duly constituted Lodges in every other country, had long been a source of unfeigned sorrow to all zealous Canadian Freemasons, who observed, with deep regret, that the advancement of the Order was by no means commensurate with the rapid improvement which marked every other branch of the social and political economy of this noble Province.

“The principal influences which retarded the progress of Masonry, were attributed to the following alleged grievances suffered by the Craft in Canada :

“The want of harmony in action and in working, resulting from Lodges hailing from the Grand Lodges of different countries, perpetuating local and national feelings and prejudices, and conflicting interests, and consequent estrangement of affection, amongst the brethren of an Order that knows no country and is confined to no race.

“The manifest injustice of Lodges in this Province being required, out of their limited means, to contribute to the accumulated funds of the Grand Lodges of Great Britain, in addition to having to support three Provincial Grand Lodges—and, especially, as the great propor-

tion of claims for Masonic assistance are made by brethren emigrating from the mother country, whilst instances of Masons leaving this for Great Britain, in a position to require such relief, are rare, if they ever occur at all. The Grand Lodges of Great Britain thus doubly tax the Fraternity here, by transferring to these shores numberless claimants for Masonic benevolence, at the same that they are receiving from us a portion of our means of affording that assistance.

"The inconvenience arising from the lengthened periods that must elapse, in consequence of the distance between us and the Grand Lodges of Great Britain, before we can receive replies to our communications, sanction to our proceedings, warrants, certificates of membership, etc., were, in cases of emergency, and instances have often occurred, of brethren being deprived of the privileges of the Craft, by being compelled to leave for foreign countries before the arrival of their certificates—for which, it must be borne in mind, they had paid previously to their initiation.

"And, lastly, the appointment of our Provincial Grand Masters by the Grand Master of England, who, at a distance of near four thousand miles, may reasonably be expected to be practically ignorant of the social position and requirements of the Craft in Canada—and, inasmuch as the Provincial Grand Officers are nominated by the Provincial Grand Masters, the efficiency or inefficiency of the administration of our affairs, depends entirely upon the eligible or ineligible selection of Provincial Grand Masters, made for us by the Grand Master of England—and this selection is made without reference to the opinions of the Fraternity in Canada, although they would naturally be the best informed on the subject, and most deeply interested in the result.

"The Provincial Grand Lodges, thus constituted, are placed in the equivocal position of being irresponsible to, and independent of the Craft in Canada, whilst experience has shown those Lodges to be unable to secure from the Grand Lodge of England, the attention and respect due to their position as Provincial Grand Lodges.

"The foregoing sentiments were participated in by the whole of the Masonic Fraternity, with scarcely an individual exception; nor were such feelings and convictions of recent formation—the necessity of establishing a Canadian Grand Lodge, having for many years occupied the serious consideration of the brethren; but hailing, as they did, from different Grand Lodges, and distributed as they were over a Province extending in length 1,600 miles, and in breadth averaging over two hundred and twenty miles, being three times as large as Great Britain and Ireland—the means of communication, too, being very imperfect—they had but few opportunities of meeting together, and much time, therefore, elapsed before any action was taken in the matter.

"The first important step occurred at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, held in October, A. L. 5852, when,

after expressing the highest respect and esteem for their parent Grand Lodge of England, a resolution was unanimously passed, to the effect, that it is absolutely necessary for the welfare of Masonry in the Province, that an independent Grand Lodge should be established, having full powers to control the working and operations of the Craft in this quarter of the globe, and that all funds accruing from the same should be retained by the said Grand Lodge, to meet the urgent necessities of the Craft in the Province.

"In May, A. L. 5853, the same Grand body (the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada); adopted and forwarded a petition to the Grand Lodge of England, which, after briefly narrating the Masonic history of Western Canada, from the year 5792, and stating—that the advancement of Masonry had been of a less cheering nature than the progress of Canada in population, intelligence, and wealth had warranted them in anticipating, and that their funds were drained by the constant demands by indigent brethren, emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland, until they were unable to carry out the great charitable objects of the Institution—prayed that they might be allowed to retain all fees arising from the working of the Craft, and also, that the various Lodges under their jurisdiction might be permitted to elect their own Provincial Grand Master—at the same time expressing the belief that if the prayer of their petition were granted, and the Grand Lodge of England would exert its influence to induce the other Grand Lodges of Great Britain not to issue any more warrants to Lodges in Canada, that ere long the whole Craft in the Province would be united in one harmonious body.

"These petitions and resolutions having elicited no reply from the Grand Lodge of England, resolutions were passed at subsequent meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge, directing that application be made to the Grand Lodge of England, first through the Grand Secretary—the regular channel of communication—and, afterwards, through the Grand Register, respectfully calling attention to the petitions, and begging that they might be favored with consideration and some reply.

"These applications appear to have been alike unavailing, in procuring from the Grand Lodge of England any consideration of the claims of the Masons of Canada, for at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge on the 19th of July last, it was officially announced that no reply had been received from the Grand Lodge of England to any of these communications.

"Finding that the interests of the Craft in the Province were suffering with increased severity from the causes of which they had complained—feeling deeply the uncourteous neglect the petitions and correspondence of the Provincial Grand Lodge had experienced from the officers of the Grand Lodge of England—and believing the Provincial Grand Lodge to be incapable of obtaining those concessions which the position of the Craft rendered indispensable—it was determined to

call a meeting of delegates from all Canadian Lodges, to be held in the city of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, to consider the expediency of establishing a Grand Lodge of Canada.

"In conformity with that resolution, and in pursuance of a summons issued to all the Lodges in Canada, the representatives of forty-one Lodges, hailing from the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, assembled at the Masonic Hall in the city of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, A. L., 5855.

"V. W. Brother, the Rev. F. J. Lundy, D.D., was called upon to officiate as Chaplain, during the session of the convention.

"The convention having been inaugurated by solemn prayer, V. W. Brother C. Magill, Mayor of the city of Hamilton, was called upon to preside, and V. W. Brother T. B. Harris was requested to act as Secretary.

"On the recommendation of a committee appointed for that purpose, rules and regulations were adopted for the government of the convention.

"The objects for which the convention was called were introduced, with explanatory observations by the Chairman, who invited the brethren present to express their views on the subject before the meeting, freely and at length.

"The convention was addressed by many of the brethren, and the several points of allegiance were very fully considered and discussed.

"In the course of the debate it was urged that, however willing the Grand Lodge of England might be to concede all the points embraced in the petitions of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the serious inconvenience arising from the distance (near four thousand miles) between Great Britain and this Province could not thus be avoided, whilst the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, in addition to remedying that inconvenience, would unite as one family the Fraternity of the Province, identify the interests, and assimilate the working of the various Lodges, at present belonging to three distinct jurisdictions, and establish harmony throughout the Craft.

"It was further urged that, having a Grand Lodge in the Province would afford the Lodges a convenience of communication which would greatly facilitate the business of the Craft—that the amount of dues that would be saved by having but one Grand Lodge to support would materially increase their benevolent resources—and that a Grand Lodge, with officers, annually elective by the Masons of Canada, would secure due attention to the interests of the Fraternity, and elevate Freemasonry in Canada to a position of prosperity, influence, and utility, under any other circumstances far beyond its capabilities.

"It was also urged, that amongst the numerous and intelligent body of Masons in the Province, the requisite talent and devotion to the welfare of the Craft may at all times be found, to conduct an efficient administration of the affairs of Freemasonry in Canada, and that the

necessities of the Fraternity require that they should assume a position of self-government.

"The feeling of the convention being manifestly so strongly in favor of the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, a committee, composed of those brethren whose Masonic knowledge and general ability had distinguished them as the best qualified for the faithful and efficient performance of so important a duty, was appointed to investigate all available Masonic authorities for precedents applicable to the to the peculiar circumstances of the case. The result of their researches was a recommendation for the immediate formation of a Grand Lodge of Canada. This recommendation, with the full and explanatory report of the committee, having received from the brethren that calm and grave consideration which the serious importance of the subject demanded, it was felt that, however painful it might be to them, thus to sever the link which had so long bound them to their parent Grand Lodges of Great Britain, and sincerely as they felt, and readily acknowledged, the duty they owed to those parent Grand Lodges, they felt that they owed a still higher duty to Freemasonry, whose best interests were at stake, and whose prosperous existence in the Province imperatively required that immediate separation.

"It was thereon solemnly

"*Resolved*, That in order to apply a remedy to these evils—to form perfect fraternal union and harmony, establish order, ensure tranquillity, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity of Canada all the blessings of Masonic privileges, it is expedient, right, and our bounden duty to form a Grand Lodge of Canada.

"It was then, on motion, unanimously

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada be and is hereby formed upon the Ancient Charges and Constitution of Masonry.

"A committee was then appointed to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada : and a temporary code having been submitted and approved, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Master and elective Grand Officers, and the following brethren were duly elected and appointed :

M. W. WM. MEROER WILSON, Grand Master.

R. W. A. BERNARD, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. W. B. SIMPSON, District Deputy Grand Master, Western District.

R. W. W. ELDEN, District Deputy Grand Master, Eastern District.

R. W. RICHARD BULL, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. JAMES DANIEL, Grand Junior Warden.

R. Rev. T. J. LUNDY, D.D., Grand Chaplain.

R. W. WM. BELLHOUSE, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. T. B. HARRIS, Grand Secretary.

V. Rev. G. SCOTT, Assistant Grand Chaplain.

W. GEORGE L. ALLEN, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. THOMAS PERKINS, Grand Junior Deacon.

W. J. H. ISAACSON, Assistant Grand Secretary.

W. THOMAS DUGGAN, G. S. of Works.

W. J. OSBORNE, G. D. of Ceremonies.

W. G. E. FENWICK, A. G. D. of Ceremonies.

W. J. W. HALDIMAND, G. S. B.

W. WILLIAM THOMAS, Grand Organist.

W. GEORGE W. POWELL, Grand Pursuivant.

W. J. R. HOLDEN and J. C. BUTLER, Grand Stewards.

Brother J. MORRISON, Grand Tyler.

"Committees were appointed to conduct the general business of the Grand Lodge, and the convention was adjourned with solemn prayer—its deliberations having occupied three days.

"The requisite arrangements having previously been made, on the 2d of November, the Grand Lodge was duly consecrated, and the Grand Master-elect regularly installed, in DUE and ANCIENT FORM by the Most Worshipful the Honorable H. T. Backus, Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, assisted by other brethren of eminence and distinction in the Craft.

"The Grand Lodge of Canada was thus regularly formed and inaugurated in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, in conformity with the custom which has prevailed in the establishment of Grand Lodges, and we confidently believe that the circumstances which called it into existence were as much stronger, as the number of Lodges by whom it was formed was greater than had ever before combined for the creation of a new Grand Lodge. From the time when the four Lodges of London renounced their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of York, and formed themselves into an independent Grand Lodge, up to the present period, the greatest number of Lodges on record ever associated to erect a new Grand Lodge was seventeen, whilst forty-one Lodges, and holding warrants, too, from three different jurisdictions, were harmoniously united in the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

"We have now stated, as briefly as their importance would admit, the whole of the circumstances connected with the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and submit them with all due respect to your august body; and having been entrusted with the sacred duty of directing the affairs of the Craft in this Province, and of representing them and advocating their interests throughout the universe; and having solemnly undertaken that charge, and to disseminate the grand principles of our ancient and honorable Order, and promote, to the utmost extent of our ability the general prosperity of the Fraternity, it is our earnest desire and intention to follow and maintain, pure and unsullied, the ancient landmarks, laws and traditions of the Craft.

"Engaged in one common cause, the good of our fellow-men, by promoting the interest of our time-honored institution—and it being our sincere desire to establish and perpetuate an intimate alliance with your Grand Lodge, we extend to you, in the name of our Divine Art,

the right hand of brotherhood, and confidently claim from you a reciprocation of our fraternal regard.

"Signed on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada,

"WM. M. WILSON, *Grand Master*.

"THOS. BIRD HARRIS, *Grand Secretary*.

"HAMILTON, C. W., November 10, A. L. 5855, A. D. 1855."

"After devoting to this address of our Canadian brethren all the consideration which its importance demands, and we are capable of giving to it, we are brought to the conclusion that the Freemasons of Canada are not only fully justifiable in sundering their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, but that, in constituting an independent Grand Lodge in Canada, they have performed a duty demanded by their obligations as Masons, and the *interests of the Craft*.

"The principles of Freemasonry are as universal as the benevolence of God in His creation, and as 'unaffected by the revolutions of empires and the change of dynasties and rulers.'

"We hold these opinions, in which we believe we are supported by the Ancient Constitutions of Masonry, and 'established usage from immemorial time'—that a Grand Lodge has the right, when it is made apparent that the interests of the Craft would be thereby promoted, to grant to the requisite number of regular Freemasons a warrant of Constitution to create a new Lodge in any State, Kingdom, Nation, or Territory, where no Grand Lodge is already established; and when Lodges so created become sufficiently numerous to render it necessary to the convenience and prosperity of the Craft, they may constitute a Grand Lodge and adopt a code of laws for their own government, in accordance with the Ancient Constitutions of the Craft, without the consent of the Grand Lodges from which they derived their existence. *The Ahimom Rezon of South Carolina says three Lodges are sufficient.*

"That a *Provincial Grand Lodge* has none of the characteristics of a Grand Lodge, and is entitled to no more consideration than a Lodge under dispensation, being the creature of the Grand Master, without the power to elect its Master.

"That the appointment of a *Provincial Grand Master* is a usurpation and innovation upon the principles of Masonry. Because all Lodges are entitled to the privilege of electing their own Masters. Because it is arbitrary and unjust to impose upon a Lodge a Master who is not acceptable to the Craft, and because 'although Freemasonry divests no man of his temporal honors, but on the contrary, highly respects them, yet, in the Lodge, preëminence of virtue and knowledge in the Mystic Art, are considered as the true and only fountain of all honor, rule and government.'

"When the Masons were cast off and anathemized by the Pope, for their opposition to tyranny and superstition, in the early ages, after

their introduction into Europe, to protect the Order from persecutions, and accusations of disloyalty, in their secret assemblies, they were forced, by the necessity of their position, to seek and encourage the patronage of royalty, by many concessions of authority and privilege, not consistent with the principles of ANCIENT FREEMASONRY, the Grand Mastership was made hereditary in families of nobility and royalty. Under this state of things, the Grand Masters of England, who were of royal blood, arrogated to themselves authority to send their deputies to the Continent, 'with full power and authority, in DUE FORM, to make Masons, and constitute and regulate Lodges, from time to time, as occasion may require ;' and thus empowered, they did constitute *Provincial Grand Lodges*, and appoint *Provincial Grand Masters*, in many parts of the Continent—in the United Provinces of Holland, at Berlin, in Germany, France, and in other Governments, and thus has grown up by usurpation the system of *Provincial Grand Lodges and the right to appoint Provincial Grand Masters* peculiar to the Grand Lodge of England.

"In the reign of King James the Second, of Scotland, the office of Grand Master was granted by the crown to William St. Clair, Earl of Orkney, etc., Baron Roslin was made hereditary to his heirs and successors, in the Barony of Roslin, in which it continued until the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in 1736, when the hereditary Grand Master, William St. Clair, resigned his hereditary right of Grand Master, and was *unanimously elected* Grand Master.

"An example which should have been followed by the Grand Master of England, and all of his *Provincial Grand Masters*.

"Subsequently, all the Provincial Grand Lodges established by the Grand Master of England on the Continent, asserted their independence and there is no evidence on record that the consent of the Grand Lodge of England was considered necessary in any case.

"As late as the year 1738, when the Book of Constitutions was republished by the learned and Rev. John Theophilus Desaguliers, LL.D., F.R.S., Deputy Grand Master, speaking of the Provincial Grand Lodges, he says : 'all these Foreign Lodges are under the patronage of our Grand Master of England ; but the old Lodge at York City, and the Lodges of Scotland, Ireland, France and Italy, *affecting independence, are under their own Grand Masters.*'

"The four Lodges which met at the Apple-Tree Tavern, in London, in 1717, and organized the Grand Lodge of England, were within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of York, and owed to it their allegiance, and yet they did not consider it necessary to obtain the consent of that Grand body to legalize their action. If there is illegality in the action of the Masons in Canada, the same may be traced back to the very foundation of the Grand Lodge of England.

"With these authorities and 'usage from immemorial time,' we will come down to the precedents furnished by the *Provincial Grand Lodges*

in the colonies of Great Britain, in America, now the United States, which we regard as more directly in point with the proceedings of the Fraternity in Canada.

"The Provincial Grand Lodge of Georgia, deriving its powers from the Grand Lodge of England, constituted an independent Grand Lodge in December, 1776.

"The Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts holding its authority under the Grand Master of Scotland, threw off its allegiance and established an independent Grand Lodge in March, 1777. There was at that time another Provincial Grand Lodge in Massachusetts, known as the St. John's Grand Lodge, chartered by the Grand Lodge of England, and organized in 1733. This was the first Provincial Grand Lodge chartered in America, and continued to exercise the functions of a Grand Lodge, by issuing charters and establishing new Lodges until its union with the independent Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1792.

"The Lodges in Virginia, holding their charters under five distinct and separate authorities, viz. : the Grand Masters of England, Scotland, Ireland, and the Provincial Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and America, organized an independent Grand Lodge in October, 1778.

"The Lodges in Pennsylvania, holding charters under the Provincial Grand Lodge of Boston, and the Grand Lodge of England, met in the city of Philadelphia, in September, 1786, and 'after mature and serious deliberation,' unanimously :

"Resolved, That it is improper that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should remain any longer under the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge.

"The Grand Lodge of New Jersey was organized in December, 1786.

"The Provincial Grand Lodge of New York, holding a warrant from the Duke of Athol, Grand Master of England, dated London, September 5th, 1781, organized an independent Grand Lodge in September, 1787.

"The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was organized in July, 1789.

"The Grand Lodge of Connecticut was organized in July, 1789.

"The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island was organized in June, 1791.

"The Grand Lodge of South Carolina was organized in February 1787.

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland was organized in May, 1794.

"The Grand Lodge of North Carolina was organized in 1797.

"There was no regular Masonic organization in Delaware until about the year 1806, and the Grand Lodge of Vermont was constituted at Portland, in October, 1794.

"Thus we see that all the colonies, including Vermont, obtained their charters directly from the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, or Ireland, or indirectly from Provincial Grand Lodges in some of the States, whose authority was derived from one or another of those sources, and

that all of them organized independent Grand Lodges without the consent of the parent body from which they derived their authority ; and the causes assigned for their independent action were substantially the *convenience and interests of the Craft*, which rendered the severance of their allegiance necessary.

“ Virginia says, in justification of her independent action :

“ We find upon record that the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland, founded their original right of election upon *their sole authority*, by mutual consent, distinct and separate from all foreign power whatever, and ‘ we cannot discover upon inquiry that *Masonry has ever derived any benefit from the foreign appointment of a Grand Master in this country, they being as little known and as little acknowledged.*

“ The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania declares, ‘ *that it is improper that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should remain any longer under the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge.*’

“ The Grand Lodge of New York says :

“ In conformity to the example which had been set by the Grand Lodges of the several States, the Masters and Wardens of the several Lodges within the State, assembled in the city of New York, and the late *Provincial* Grand Lodge having been closed *sine die*, formed and opened an independent Grand Lodge, and elected and installed their Grand Officers.

“ On the formation of the independent Grand Lodge of South Carolina, February, 1787, the following ‘ Circular Letter was transmitted to the different Grand Lodges in Great Britain, Ireland, and America :’

“ We, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons for the State of South Carolina, and the Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, legally and constitutionally erected and organized, and in AMPLE FORM assembled, beg leave, with all due respect, and in the true spirit of Brotherly Love, to announce to you our formation as such ; to declare the purity of those motives which led to it ; to assure you that, by this act we mean not to dissolve, but to strengthen that union by which the Ancient Brethren, throughout all nations, are connected, and to request your countenance and correspondence.

“ This act, brethren is *not without precedent*, nor was the measure hastily and unadvisedly adopted ; the truth of this assertion will appear from the facts stated in the preamble to those warrants we have granted to Lodges under our jurisdiction—a copy of which we have above prefixed, as containing a precise account of the foundation of this Grand Lodge.

“ The *necessity* of the measure, and the motives which actuated the brethren to proceed to this important business, will appear obvious to the Masonic world, from a few plain facts.

“ The Ancient Lodges in this State were constituted under different authorities, and subject to different and very distant jurisdictions ; consequently, the funds (the first natural object of which is the relief of such distress as comes immediately under the observation of the

brethren), were necessarily subject to be diffused to distant regions, and thereby divided into such inconsiderable portions, that the charity was rendered of less effect than if those funds were more compact ; add to this, that under the foregoing circumstances, and without a local head, it might become at least possible for the Lodges in this State to differ in sentiment, to deviate by degrees from the strict union of Freemasonry, and to vary from that conformity to ancient landmarks and uniformity in working, which ought ever to be held sacred among the brethren.

“ ‘To render the divine principle of Charity more effectual, to cement harmony and Brotherly Love, to preserve union, conformity and uniformity among our Lodges, and to cultivate strict fellowship with all the Ancient Masonic bodies within reach of our correspondence, were our motives for forming and establishing a Grand Lodge in this State, to *guide, govern, and direct*, our local proceedings : and for the sincerity of those motives, we appeal to that Grand Architect, who built up the human heart, and searches the inmost recesses of its fabric.’

“ ‘With this long and unbroken chain of authorities and precedents before us, we go directly to support the action of the Masons of Canada, which expected that the Grand Lodges in the United States, would with open arms receive and welcome this young sister of Canada into the family of Grand Lodges of America. But on looking into the proceedings of Grand Lodges before us, we were not a little surprised to see that the Worthy Grand Master of New York, promptly refused to permit a P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New York to assist in the installation of their Grand Officers ; and in his address to the Grand Lodge, at its annual communication in June last, he says :

“ ‘We cannot for a moment countenance schisms and rebellions : they are antagonistic to the spirit of Masonry ; and, if encouraged, would eventually produce its downfall and utter destruction. *There are other means afforded by the Institution, whereby a good object may be effected, without rashly and harshly doing violence to our wholesome regulations. Every disease can find its remedy there, and every grievance its redress.*’

“ ‘We were in hopes that the worthy Grand Master would have pointed out what those ‘means’ are, and where that *panacea* could be found which would cure ‘every disease’ and ‘redress every grievance.’ We are sure our Canadian brethren would be thankful for the knowledge ; for no doubt they think, and so we think, that they have exhausted all the *means* at their command, in the form of prayers, petitions, and remonstrance, and are not chargeable with ‘rashly and harshly doing violence to our wholesome regulations.’ But he goes on, and says :

“ ‘I will, however, remark, that I have been startled to learn, that one or more of the Grand Lodges have acknowledged this spurious Grand Lodge in Canada as legitimate. This we view as strangely mysterious. We can scarcely open a copy of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodges, as they come into the Grand Secretary’s office, but we find expressions of sorrow, regret, pity, and contempt, for the Masons of New York, in consequence of the schisms and rebellions they find here.’

"Ah! we sadly fear, here lies the whole difficulty in respect to the proceedings of our Canadian brethren. The Worthy Grand Master has been so long brooding over 'schisms and rebellions' at home, he has become nervously affected, and sees spectres behind every bush, and fell auguries in the flight of every bird.

"We can point with pride to the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Florida, in regard to the difficulties in New York. Upon the presentation of the question, this Grand Lodge promptly decided which body she would recognize and correspond with, as the legitimate Grand Lodge of New York; and whilst the whole Fraternity had our sympathy, regarding it as a family breach, which time and better councils would reconcile, we have refrained from intermeddling advice, as well as from any 'expressions of sorrow, regret, pity, or contempt.'

"But we respectfully think our New York brethren have no cause to disquiet themselves on account of the revolutionary movements in Canada, for we really cannot perceive the slightest analogy between their positions. In New York, it is a family quarrel about constitutional prerogatives and constitutional enactments—neither of the bodies impeaching the integrity of its jurisdiction, or denying its supreme Masonic authority, but each contending for the right to administer it. New York has no foreign Colonies in which she may plant *Provincial* Grand Lodges, and appoint *Provincial* Grand Masters, whose fidelity would be in danger of being corrupted by the evil example of the Canadian Masons.

"But the committee on Foreign Correspondence of New York say, 'taking all the circumstances together, we hardly think there is a parallel case in Masonic history.' Now, with due deference to their general information, we think 'the thirteen colonies of this country' are all, without an exception, 'parallel cases;' and they go on to cite the cases of Georgia and Massachusetts; but seeing that they were both directly against their argument, they say:

"Its (Georgia's) organization was different from that in Canada, in this—that, while Samuel Elliot, its Provincial Grand Master, relinquished his right to preside over the Craft in that State or Province, Sir Allan N. McNab, in the Upper Canadian Province, and T. Douglass Harington, Esq., in the Lower Province, are in the full exercise of the powers conferred on them by the Grand Lodge of England. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts took upon itself an independent attitude on the 8th of March, 1777. The Provincial Grand Lodge, to which this succeeded, had become *defunct* by the death of the lamented Gen. Warren.'

"A most lame and impotent conclusion.' We respectfully ask our learned brethren of New York, where they obtained authority for this declaration, that a Provincial Grand Lodge 'became defunct' by the death or resignation of its Provincial Grand Master. We venture the assertion that it cannot be found on record, that either of the Provincial Grand Lodges gave to the Masonic world, the *death* or *resignation* of its Provincial Grand Master, as a justifying cause for casting off its allegiance to the parent body. To have seized upon such an event to

assume 'an independent attitude' would have been an aggravation of the rebellion.

"In the case of Georgia, Samuel Elliott, the Provincial Grand Master—believing that the *appointment* of a *Provincial Grand Master* was an innovation upon the principles of the Craft, and following the example of William St. Clair, hereditary Grand Master of Scotland, Baron Roslin, who resigned the hereditary right of Grand Master—resigned his *Provincial Grand Mastership*, so as not to be in the way of the Craft's electing their own Grand Master; and when Massachusetts established an independent Grand Lodge in 1777, there was at that time, in the colony of Massachusetts, the St. John's Provincial Grand Lodge, holding its charter directly from the Grand Master of England, dated as far back as 1733, the oldest Provincial Grand Lodge in America, and continued in the exercise of its functions as a Grand Lodge, by issuing charters and establishing new Lodges, until its union with the independent Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in 1792. Is there no parallel to be found in all this 'Masonic history' for the Masons of Canada?

"The next case the New York Committee rely upon, is the history of the proceedings in Virginia; and, finding this case directly against them, they again find a *distinction* without a *difference*, and are driven to rely upon conclusions drawn from false premises. They say:

"The only other Grand Lodge which threw off foreign control, prior to the recognition of our sovereignty by Great Britain herself, in the treaty of Paris, September 23d, 1783, was Virginia. This was formed on the 13th day of October, 1778; and among the reasons for its formation, as set forth by the Convention of Lodges out of which it ultimately grew, were the following:

["Which we will copy at large from the New York report, believing they go fully to support our position.]

"1. We find that the Lodges in this State hold their charters under five distinct and separate authorities, viz.: the Grand Master of England, Scotland, Ireland, Pennsylvania, and America (the last at second hand); of course all have an equal right to appoint their Deputies, who can claim no authority over those not holding this principle. Therefore, any difference arising between Lodges holding differently, cannot be settled, for want of a common tribunal. For the same reason the Craft can never meet in annual communication, manifesting that brotherly love and affection, the distinguishing characteristic of Masonry from the beginning. Such divided and subdivided authority can never be productive to the real good of the Craft.

"2. We cannot discover, upon inquiry, that Masonry has ever derived any benefit from the foreign appointment of a Grand Master in this country; they being as little known, and as little acknowledged.

"3. Being at this time without a supreme head, and so circumstanced as to render it impossible to have recourse to the Grand Lodge

beyond the sea, should any abuse creep into Lodges, or should any body of the brotherhood be desirous of forming a new Lodge, there is no settled authority to apply to. In this case we are of opinion that a Grand Lodge is a matter of necessity.

“ ‘4. And, lastly, we find upon record, that the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, founded their original right of election upon their sole authority, by mutual consent, distinct and separate from all foreign powers whatever.’

“ Now, we think, here is a precedent, and a direct parallel with the Canada case ; and so, it appears, the New York committee thought, for they say :

“ ‘The reasons first stated above, for the course which the authors proposed to pursue, are much the same as those declared by the brethren at Hamilton, Canada West, though the others are somewhat different, and, we think, more potent. We think it will be conceded that if the occurrence of any ordinary circumstances, short of the implied or express consent of England, could justify the organization of a sovereign Grand Lodge, it would be those which are here enumerated as having existed in the case of Virginia ; but they were not sufficient even in the estimation of those ardent republicans who were engaged in that movement. One of those contingencies must happen which are provided for by the ancient landmarks, or by the organic laws from which the constituent Lodges severally derived their existence ; that is, the government must be changed, so that the Masonic bodies recognize the ruling power, *de facto* ; or the consent of the parent body be obtained, or the Provincial Grand Lodge must cease to exist, by the death, resignation, suspension, or removal of the Provincial Grand Master.’

“ Well, we confess that these are new ancient landmarks to us, and one of them very startling. The first, ‘the government must be changed so that the Masonic bodies recognize the ruling power, *de facto* ;’ in other words, CIVIL REVOLUTION. This doctrine Masonry abhors. Every Mason must ‘be a good man and true.’ He must ‘be a peaceable citizen, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which he resides.’ He must ‘not be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the government of the country in which he lives ; but patiently to submit to the decision of the law, and constituted authorities.’ He must ‘pay a proper respect to the civil magistrates, work diligently, live creditably, and act honestly by all men.’

“ These are ANCIENT CHARGES, about which, we presume, among Masons, there can be but one opinion. What then would have been the position of Georgia, Massachusetts, and Virginia, if the Fraternity in those States, taking advantage of the political revolution, ‘the ruling power, *de facto*,’ gave that ‘contingency’ as a justification for a Masonic revolution ? Would they not, as Masonic bodies, have been implicated in countenancing, if not concerned in plots and conspiracies against the government of the country in which they lived ? And what would have

been the effect upon the harmony of the Craft in those jurisdictions? Whigs would have been found expelling Tories from the Lodges, where they had the power; and Tories would have expelled the Whigs from Lodges where their power predominated. But, for the credit and prosperity of the Craft in the United States, the Masons in those days were wiser and better men; and if there had been more of such Masons, both Whigs and Tories, in the United States during the war of the Revolution, the horrors of civil war would have been greatly ameliorated. And we fearlessly venture the assertion, that not a particle of evidence can be produced from the record of the day, that the change of the *political* government was ever regarded by the Provincial Grand Lodges as a justifying cause for affecting Masonic independence, either during the 'ruling power, *de facto*,' or after 'the treaty of Paris, September 23rd, 1783,' *the power, de jure*. We readily admit that all communication being cut off between the Provincial Grand Lodges in the United States, and the parent bodies in Great Britain, by the Revolutionary war, a *necessity* arose which justified independent action. And it is remarkable that only three Provincial Grand Lodges asserted independency; all the others adhered faithfully to their Masonic allegiance, and not for many years after the acknowledgment of the Independence of the United States by Great Britain, did they affect any change in their relations to their parent bodies, with whom a mutual recognition of authority and submission subsisted. And on this point we would respectfully invite the attention of our brethren of New York to a portion of their own history. The Duke of Athol, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England, granted a charter, dated London, September 5th, A. D. 1781, to the Masons of New York, to constitute a Provincial Grand Lodge, five years after 'the ruling power, *de facto*,' under which they worked, subordinate to the Grand Lodge of England, until 1787, four years after 'the treaty of Paris, 1783,' when, by a convention of Lodges, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed *sine die*, and an independent Grand Lodge was constituted; and the reason assigned, was, 'the example which had been set by the Grand Lodges of several of the States'—*the interest of the Craft*.

"The Provincial Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New Jersey in 1786, closed *sine die*, and organized independent Grand Lodges, and resolved, 'That it is improper that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should remain any longer under the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge.' Again, *the promotion of the interests of the Craft was the moving object*.

"The Grand Lodges of New Hampshire and Connecticut effected independency in 1789—thirteen years after 'the ruling power, *de facto*.' Rhode Island, in 1791; Maryland and Vermont, in 1794; North Carolina, in 1797, fourteen years after the treaty of 1783; and South Carolina in 1787; and in no instance can we find any other causes in

justification assigned, for the severance of the allegiance due to the parent bodies, than, substantially, the *necessity* which the *interests* and the *prosperity* of the Craft imposed. And, we ask again, if the *change* in the *political government* wrought necessarily a *change* in the *Masonic government*, so as to sever the allegiance due from Provincial Grand Lodges to their parent head, why was it, that the enlightened Masons of South Carolina considered it necessary to address a 'Circular to the different Grand Lodges in Great Britain, Ireland and America,' announcing *their organization in ample form* as an independent Grand Lodge? in which they say, 'This act, brethren, is not without *precedent*, nor was the measure *hastily* or *unadvisedly* adopted.' And the learned Dr. Dalcho, who compiled the *Book of Constitutions* of South Carolina, based chiefly, we believe, upon the authority of Anderson, says :

"Things continued in this situation until the successful termination of the American Revolution added a great and powerful empire to the independent nations of the earth. Freemasonry, unaffected by the revolutions of empires, the change of dynasties and rulers, pursues "the even tenor of her way," true to her principles, and inflexibly bent on promoting "peace and good will among men." Neither allied to the Church, nor influenced by the State, she earnestly endeavors to promote harmony, benevolence, and brotherly love, wherever her influence extends. But, notwithstanding Freemasonry has nothing to do with particular forms of Government, yet it comports with the dignity of the nation and the honor of the Craft, to have her Lodges independent of *any foreign jurisdiction*. As the American Revolution gave sovereignty and independence to the nation, so it produced a *reasonable cause for the independence of the Masonic body*.'

"But take another specimen of the *sound* and *logical* argument of the intelligent committee of New York. They say 'one of these contingencies must happen, which are provided for by the ANCIENT LAND-MARKS, etc. ; that is, the government *must be changed*, so that the Masonic bodies recognize the ruling power, *de facto*.' And, in regard to Georgia, Massachusetts, and Virginia, they contend that such was the fact, viz. : the existence of 'the ruling power, *de facto*.' Then why seek other causes for justification? But the committee declare 'that was not sufficient, even in the estimation of those ardent republicans who were engaged in that movement.' 'Two of these contingencies had happened in the case of Virginia ; one of which they declared before organizing their Grand Lodge, and made it one of the *three* fundamental grounds upon which only they felt authorized to proceed to the organization of the Grand Lodge, viz. : "It is the opinion of this convention, that the power and authority of CORNELIUS HARNET, Esq., as Deputy Grand Master of *America*, does not now exist." Now, just look back at the *first* resolution of the convention, which reads thus : 'First.—We find that the Lodges in this State hold their charters under *five distinct and separate* authorities, viz. : the Grand Master of England, Scotland, Ireland, Pennsylvania and *America* (the last at second hand) ; of course all have an equal right to appoint their deputies, who can claim no authority over those not holding this principle.' By this sort

of argument, it would seem that the *non-existence* of the power and authority of Cornelius Harnet, Esq., as Deputy Grand Master of America, *nullifies* the power and authority of the Deputy Grand Masters of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Pennsylvania. Now let us state the proposition thus: the Provincial Grand Lodge must cease to exist; the power and authority of Cornelius Harnet, Esq., as Deputy Grand Master of America, does not now exist—*ergo*, the power and authority of the Deputy Grand Masters of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Pennsylvania do not now exist.

"It is by this kind of logic, and arguments predicated upon false, or assumed premises, that the committee hope to sustain their position. Take the 'three fundamental grounds upon which only they felt authorized to proceed to the organization of the Grand Lodge,' all of which is assumed—for the very reverse is declared in the resolutions of the convention. 1. '*The government must be changed so that the Masonic bodies recognize the ruling power, de facto.*' We have clearly shown, that not one of 'the Masonic bodies recognizes the ruling power, *de facto*,' nor did they the governing power *de jure*, as operating any change in their Masonic relations.

2. "'*Or the consent of the parent body be obtained.*' We have proven by authority and usage, from the formation of the Grand Lodges of England, in 1717, to the organization of the Grand Lodge of Kansas Territory, that in no instance, has the consent of the 'parent body' been obtained.

"The *Ahiman Rezon*, of South Carolina, compiled by Dr. Dalcho, and prepared and re-published with notes by Dr. Mackey, says: 'Any three regular Lodges can form and constitute a Grand Lodge, in a State, Kingdom, or Nation, where no Grand Lodge is already established; and have the right of forming a code of laws for their government, according to the ancient constitutions of the Craft.' And such is the usage in the United States, without an exception; not one word about the 'consent of the parent body.'

3. "'*Or the Provincial Grand Lodge must cease to exist, by the death, resignation, suspension, or removal of the Provincial Grand Master.*' Now, that this is a mere assumption, is self-evident. All charters for a Lodge are granted to the Master and Wardens, and their successors, and if the Master is absent for either of the above causes, the Senior Warden steps into his place and authority, until a new election or appointment. But here is a strange idea. The Grand Master of England has the right of appointment of all his Provincial Grand Masters, and of the removal of them at his will. But, by this reasoning, if in the exercise of his legitimate right, he *removes* a Provincial Grand Master, his power and authority 'ceases to exist,' and the *Provincial Grand Lodge*, acquires by that lawful act, the right to assert its own independence. But, we respectfully think, there is another difficulty from which our esteemed brethren of New York, will hardly be able to ex-

tricate themselves in this argument. When a Lodge 'ceases to exist,' or becomes *defunct*, it is the duty of the officers and members of the Lodge to see that the charter and the furniture and property of the Lodge are returned, and delivered to the Grand Master from whom the charter emanated. Consequently, there would remain no Masonic authority to organize a legally constituted Grand Lodge.

"Thus the committee will see that the 'three fundamental grounds' upon which they have rested their argument, have crumbled away before them, and left a chasm which they will never be able to leap over. They very gravely ask :

" 'Is it not the fact that every officer and member of the *newly formed body* has been obligated to support the constitutions of the Grand Lodge they have respectively renounced. This will not be denied, and yet one of the fundamental laws requires them to "submit to the constitutions," and pay respect to the regularly constituted Masonic authorities under which they were made.'

" Well, we grant it, and ask our intelligent brethren of New York if it is not the fact that all officers and members of all regularly constituted Masonic bodies under the canopy of heaven, in all time, have been and are bound by the same obligations? and if there ever was, or ever can be a *newly* organized Grand Lodge, whose officers and members were not obligated to 'submit to the constitutions,' and pay respect to the regularly constituted Masonic authorities under which they were made? Is it not the fact with all the *newly* organized Grand Lodges in the United States? Have all the Freemasons in the United States, violated their solemn obligations of allegiance to the Grand Lodges under whose authority they were made, by meeting in convention and organizing an independent Grand Lodge in their own jurisdiction? We hope not. Our intelligent brethren of New York must surely perceive that the transferring of allegiance from one legally constituted Grand body to another legally constituted Grand body, is no violation of obligations, and has the full sanction of usage in the United States, and we believe in every other portion of the world, from immemorial time. But we may be told that the Grand Lodge of Canada is not a legally constituted Grand Lodge. Well, that is the question, and we think we have proved that it is a legally constituted Grand Lodge, by *authorities, usage, and necessity*.

" One more quotation, and we have done with the report of the Corresponding Committee of New York. They say :

" 'There is another aspect of the case that the Grand Lodge of New York cannot overlook. It has heretofore specifically recognized the *regularity and legitimacy* of the *Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada*, by the appointment of representatives to each, and those representatives are now in the full exercise of their *diplomatic functions*.'

" Well! that is 'potent,' and unanswerable; and we do not know what better advice we can give our Canadian brethren, than to retrace their steps, and submit patiently. For we can see no hope of a redress of grievances, so long as the Grand Lodge of New York retains a representative at the Court of Sir Allen N. McNab.

"A committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in a special report, after giving a history of the proceedings of the Masons of Canada in relation to their independent action, and a statement of the cause of complaint, which led to it, as set forth in their address, say :

"It seems to your committee, after examining these several reasons, to the best of our ability, that they make out simply cases of *inconvenience*, and nothing more : want of *harmony in working or action*, is an inconvenience ; a *multiplicity of jurisdictions* is an inconvenience. It is an inconvenience certainly—at least we should so consider it, to be governed by a body *four thousand miles away* ; or that they should appoint our principal officers. But as these things are just as they always were among our Canadian brethren'—

"Why make a fuss about it? The reasons against them will only be a little stronger ten years hence. Well, this is certainly a very cool and considerate argument ; but we fear it would require more philosophy on our part than we could command. But, as different men take different views of the same subject, we will here copy a paragraph from a speech delivered by the Earl of Carnarvon, in the Grand Lodge of England, in September, 1856, on the condition of Masonic affairs in Canada. He said :

"The Canadian Lodges had a conference at Hamilton, at which they stated their grievances and complaints, in a petition which was forwarded to England ; it bewailed the want of *harmony* in the Canadian Lodges, the irregularity of communications between England and Canada ; and last, but not least, the unsatisfactory position of the Provincial Grand Master. This, in fact, was the principal complaint. They complained of the position of the Provincial Grand Master as part and parcel of the whole system of *nomineeism*. Which they described as distasteful to them. They complained that he was holding an *irresponsible* position, and that they had neither a *concurrent voice in the management of the affairs, nor any check upon his proceedings*. No notice, whatever, was taken of this communication. They met again and embodied their grievances in a set of resolutions. What became of those resolutions? I ask. It is sufficient to say that there was *no reply*. Now, brethren, can you wonder that as time flew in a manner little reckoned of by us in England, it was counted by days and weeks in Canada? Years elapsed—three long years—and yet the Canadian communication was unattended to, and even unacknowledged ; and now, who can wonder that hope deferred produced its natural results. Upon the petition to be permitted to elect their Provincial Grand Master, the Grand Master *graciously* proposes, by way of relief, "that henceforth, *every third year*, the Provincial Grand Master should send in a report, and if that report, under the auspices of the Provincial Grand Master be unsatisfactory, that it should then be competent for the Grand Master to depose the Provincial Grand Master." But this proposal gives no new power to the Provincial Grand Master. He can at present send his reports, not every third year, but, whenever he

likes. It is also, at present, in the power of the Grand Master, to *depose* the Provincial Grand Master whenever he may think proper to do so. What improvement, therefore, I ask, would be effected by the Grand Master's proposition? What further independence or self-government would it confer upon the Colonies? I answer, none. The only reception which such a proposition could meet with in Canada, would be *scorn and irritation*. When independent brethren made motions of remedial character, they were stifled under the pretense that an ancient landmark of the Order was attempted to be obliterated; a Grand Lodge was attempted to be coerced by an over-bearing temper and domineer. *Let us never suppose that extent of dominion is any real test of power. Extent of dominion is no test of real prosperity, unless accompanied by a living spirit, breathing from the inmost centre to the utmost extremity.*

"We respectfully think that our brethren of New York and Massachusetts have taken a wrong view of this whole question, and, with deference we say it, we fear a very dangerous one, as it regards the perpetuity and purity of the principles of the Order. The Massachusetts committee say:

"And the leading principle is this, that each Grand Lodge in the United States rules and governs, without interference from any other, all Lodges within the civil jurisdiction of the State in which she is situated—holding the territories as common ground, wherein each Grand Lodge is free to charter Lodges at pleasure; until each Territory by being regularly admitted into the Union as a State, acquires the right to form a Grand Lodge for itself. Your committee are aware that this has sometimes been done before admission as a State; but, although it may be alleged, in excuse, that Territories are States in process of formation, we still think the practice illegal, and not to be justified in any case; the only safe rule, in our opinion, being that above laid down.'

"We would say, that each Grand Lodge rules and governs without interference from any other, all Lodges within its *Masonic jurisdiction*. Usage has adopted *civil* jurisdiction, because defined and convenient, and because there can be but *one Supreme Masonic* authority in a *Masonic jurisdiction*, no other Supreme Masonic authority can interfere with it. The Grand Lodge of England is supreme in its *defined* jurisdiction. But it cannot charter Lodges in the *defined* jurisdictions of Scotland and Ireland. But they have the same right to charter Lodges in any of the Territories of the United States, that any of the Grand Lodges in the United States have, 'where no Grand Lodge is already established.' And the Grand Lodges in the United States, have the same right to charter Lodges in any of the Canadian Provinces, that the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland have. Because there is no Supreme Masonic authority in Canada. The Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada are subordinate Lodges, owing allegiance to foreign supreme Grand bodies, who charter Lodges at will, within their own jurisdictions, whilst they cannot elect their Grand Officers,

or grant charters. When there are a sufficient number of regularly chartered Lodges in any of the Territories or Provinces, where no Grand Lodge is already established, and it appears the *interests and prosperity of the Craft would be promoted*, they may form and constitute a Grand Lodge without the consent of the Grand authorities from which they derived their existence, and 'have the right of forming a code of laws for their government, according to the ancient constitutions of the Craft.' But permit us to look a little further into the consequences of this 'leading principle,' put forth by our Massachusetts brethren. They say, 'holding the territories as common ground, wherein each Grand Lodge is free to charter Lodges at pleasure, until each Territory, by being regularly admitted into the Union as a State *acquires the right to form a Grand Lodge for itself*.' Then the right to form a sovereign Masonic authority, for the *interests of the Craft* depends upon the will of the civil government, under which it is located, and not upon the ancient constitutions and usages of the Order. By this doctrine, the Masons of Canada, having no prospect of any redress of their grievances, but by civil revolution, are driven of necessity to a violation of their obligations, by being 'concerned in plots and conspiracies against the government of the country in which they live.'

"The committee perceiving the difficulties into which this doctrine was leading them, say: 'Your committee are aware that this has *sometimes* been done before admission as a State, but, although it may be alleged in excuse that Territories are *States* in process of formation, we still think the practice *illegal* and not to be justified in any case.' We believe our highly respected brethren of Massachusetts will find it a very hard matter to point out a solitary instance of a territorial government, since the adoption of the Federal Constitution, where a Grand Lodge was not organized before its admission as a State. The Grand Lodge of Florida was organized in 1830, and the Territory was not admitted as a State until 1845. If this be sound doctrine, it is *Congress* which *legalizes* the institution of an independent Grand Lodge, and not the ancient constitutions and usages of Masonry.

"Will our brethren of New York and Massachusetts consider the consequences of their doctrine and arguments, which subject the institutions of our Order to the *changes and revolutions* of the civil government under which they may chance to be located. Suppose the navy and army of Great Britain should succeed in a conquest of the territories of the United States, on the Pacific, and in reducing them to the condition of Provinces; the Grand Lodges which have been established there, by such doctrine, would be divested of their independency, and be reduced to the condition of *Provincial Grand Lodges*, subject to the authority and control of the Grand Master of England.

"It is the boast of English statesman that the sun never sets upon

the British Empire. Wherever the navy and army of Great Britain can carry the sword of conquest, the authority of the Grand Master of England follows, supreme. How can such doctrines, we respectfully ask, square with the sublime principles of Freemasonry, which are the same in all climes, and under all forms of government, 'neither allied to the Church nor influenced by the State'—universal, unchangeable and eternal?

"But the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia adopts the opinion of the M. W. Grand Master of New York, and say:

"We highly appreciate and warmly commend his comments on the Masonic virtue of obedience to law and order, as the foundation on which the well-being of every Grand Lodge depends, and will not venture to analyze the extremely delicate details of the issue involved, as presented by the relations which the governors and the governed bear to each other in this particular case. Nor will we venture to disturb the good relation we hold to the M. W. G. Lodge of England, by obtruding our opinions on their deliberations in advance of any request by her to do so.

"Well, we are very sorry that the enlightened and experienced committee of the Grand Lodge of the old Dominion, the mother of Washington, did not take a little more time to consider of this important matter for themselves, and to look into their own history upon this subject.

"We will now close this report with a few extracts from some of as enlightened and experienced Masonic bodies, as any in the United States, which we find in the proceedings before us.

"The Corresponding Committee of the State of Maine, after presenting the case of the Canadian Masons, say:

"Before introducing resolutions on this communication, we will frankly state, that before the Grand Lodge of Canada was organized, and while measures were in train for that end, and opinion adverse to their independent organization was submitted to them by M. W. G. Master Joseph D. Evans, of the Grand Lodge of New York, which was approved by a committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, who in their report on the subject, in 1855, say:

"We would strenuously urge upon the recalcitrant Lodges of Canada West to fall back upon their former position of subordinates, and commence to attain their object by a respectful, firm, but Masonic memorial to their Mother Grand Lodge, as being the only course likely to place them fair before the family of Grand Lodges, into which they propose and hope to be adopted."

"With all due deference to the opinions advanced by the M. W. G. Master of New York, and fully endorsed by the distinguished committee of Virginia, your committee are impressed with the conviction that the reason set forth in the preamble, resolution, and proceedings of our brethren in Canada, fully justify their action in the premises, and entitle them to a cordial recognition by all the Grand Lodges of this coun-

try and the world. We do not see wherein they had not "exhausted, fully and completely, the means they possessed of accomplishing the end" sought by their petitions and correspondence with the Grand Lodge of England.'

"The report of the special committee of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, we beg to quote entire, as an able and conclusive document upon this subject :

"Brother Bowdish, from the committee to whom was referred the communication from the Grand Lodge of Canada, made their report as follows, which was unanimously accepted and adopted :

"*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont, now in session :*

"Your committee to whom was referred the communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, have had the same under consideration, and after a thorough examination of the facts therein set forth, report,

"That before entering upon a strict examination of the matter, they were disposed to look upon the action of the delegates assembled at the city of Hamilton, on the 10th day of October, A. L. 5855, with suspicion of being revolutionary in its tendency, and as having been prompted by a spirit of insubordination to the venerable Grand Lodge of England, Ireland and Scotland, instead of a spirit of devotion to the welfare of the Fraternity.

"And although your committee would by no means be understood to condemn revolutions in the *political* world, brought about by oppression, and prosecuted for the purpose of establishing more wholesome forms of government. Yet they were disposed to look with scrutiny upon any action (bearing the semblance to revolution) emanating from a body of men fraternized together for the purpose of disseminating those divine principles, and promoting the exercise of those great cardinal virtues : *Brotherly Love, Charity, and Truth.*

"Yet your committee, upon a full investigation of the premises, find all the statements set forth in the communication from the Grand Lodge of Canada to be true. That the Masons of Canada, in this movement were actuated by no spirit of insubordination, *revenge, hatred, or malice* toward the Venerable Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, or Scotland ; not that they loved and venerated those Grand Lodges *less*, but that they loved the cause *more*, and considered the *existence*, interests and welfare of Masonry in Canada as demanding precedence over every other consideration ; that the Lodges in Canada would gladly, throughout all time, subject themselves to the jurisdiction of either of said Grand Lodges, were it possible to overcome the insurmountable barriers of distance, and means of communication, which the Great Architect of the Universe has placed in the way—barriers which must remain, and ever render it utterly impossible for the Lodges in Canada to force their way within hailing distance of the practical jurisdiction of either. -

"Placed, in point of fact, in this real position of wayfarers and orphans, without a parental roof, or a fraternal home; having no governing power nearer than three thousand miles, and belonging to Lodges emanating from three different sources, a circumstance of itself naturally engendering jealousy, envy, and uncharitableness towards each other, productive of confusion, disunion, and want of harmony—a state of things which must inevitably bring the Craft into disrepute.

"What could the brethren of these forty-one Lodges of Canada do? The following extract from the December number of the *Freemason's Magazine*, published in London, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, being the highest Masonic publication in Europe, answers this question so far as the Grand Lodge of England is concerned, by acknowledging the *justice* of what they *have* done:

"SEVERANCE OF THE CANADIAN LODGES FROM THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

"So important do we consider the step which has been taken, and we consider *justly*, by our brethren in Canada, that we beg to draw especial attention to the official communication made to us, which our readers will find published in our correspondence. It appears, among other causes inducing them to throw off allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, the Canadian Brethren forcibly allude to the fact of important communications "to England having frequently remained without reply for months, and in some cases for years; and notwithstanding that complaints of such neglect have been repeatedly represented to the Grand Lodge of England, they have as yet received no attention or redress—a neglect highly discourteous towards the Masons of Canada, and seriously injurious to the general interests of the Craft. Experience has shown them to be *unable* to secure from the Grand Lodge of England the attention and respect due to their position as a Provincial Grand Lodge."

"This is a very grave charge, and one we, to our cost, have reason to *verify*, for not Canada alone, but other foreign settlements of Masonry, have applied to us repeatedly,' etc.

"Your committee further find that *forty-one* Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, all in good standing, a portion of which were working under authority derived from each of the Grand Lodges aforesaid, united in this movement *ex-necessitate*, and that the warrants under which they acted, have all been surrendered and returned to the sources from which they emanated.

"It was urged before your committee that the assent of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, should have been obtained before the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada. But your committee are not aware of the existence of any Masonic law or usage giving to the Grand Lodges aforesaid, the power to *establish* or *prevent* the formation of a Grand Lodge in Canada.

"Entertaining the opinion which your committee do, and which the Masonic world must, of the high reputation of the three venerable Grand Lodges aforesaid, your committee are unwilling to believe that they, or either of them, will for a moment harbor or tolerate a sectional, or selfish view of this matter, but on the other hand, feeling, as they must, an interest in the prosperity of the cause, the world over, will with one accord hail our brethren of Canada, and with a *paternal* and *fraternal* blessing, bid them a hearty God-speed in their new organization.

"On referring to Masonic history and usage, your committee find that in the year 1717, the *four* Lodges working in the city of London, met at Appletree Tavern, in Charles street, Covent Garden, London; and in the absence of all other authority constituted themselves into a Grand Lodge, thus affording and establishing an eminent precedent for independent action upon this subject whenever the necessity of the case, and the existence or interest of the Craft demand it. Also in 1812, the Lodges in Louisiana met and formed a Grand Lodge, and as a justification for the step which they had taken, stated 'the example set by the other States in this Union, and their typographical situation which rendered their communications with the Mother Lodge extremely difficult and hazardous.'

"In 1818 the Lodges in Mississippi having derived their charters from two different sources, to wit, from the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Tennessee, met and organized themselves into a Grand Lodge for the State of Mississippi, and in their manifesto, sent forth to the Masonic world, set forth as the reason for the step which they had taken 'that the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Tennessee, from their remote situation, possessed inherently the creating power, and that their Lodges in Mississippi were suffered to pass on without instruction or correction; and that the Mother Lodges being thus necessarily unacquainted with their wants and wishes, on all matters appertaining to their local concerns, difficulties, and inconveniences, affecting the prosperity of the institution, had arisen, which called loudly for a remedy;' and the remedy applied in Louisiana, Mississippi, and in every other instance (which has come to the knowledge of your committee) has been the formation of a Grand Lodge in the several jurisdictions where such evils existed, and their authority to form the same has never as yet been questioned, or, at least, successfully controverted.

"It is for us, then, upon this side of the Atlantic, when the high Masonic authority of England, above referred to, acknowledged the justice of their claims, and endorses their proceedings? Is it for us, the Grand Lodge of Vermont, with motives as pure as the air of our own green hills, who have, and can have no feeling in the matter, except such as should be exercised by every true Mason, to-wit, the prosperity of the Craft? Is it for us, situated in the immediate vicinity of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and knowing her to be composed

of good Masons and true ; knowing, as we do, the difficulties under which our Canadian brethren have labored and struggled to maintain their existence as Masons ; knowing, as we do, that the formation of the Grand Lodge of England, and of the Grand Lodges of most of the States of the Union, have formed and established Masonic precedents for this very action ? Does it become us, with all these precedents and acts before us, to withhold the right hand of fellowship from, and turn the cold shoulder to, these forty-one Lodges in Canada—for following these eminent and praiseworthy Masonic examples ? Your committee, *unanimously* and *emphatically*, answer no ! And believing that there was, on the 10th day of October, A. L. 5855, at the city of Hamilton, in Canada West, a Grand Lodge of Canada, constitutionally and Masquically established, according to ancient usages and precedents of the Order, unanimously recommended the passage of the following resolution :

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Vermont cordially extends to the Grand Lodge of Canada the right hand of fellowship, and recognizes it as an independent Grand Lodge, entitled to all the courtesies and fraternal regards due to the most favored Grand Lodge.’

“The M. W. Grand Master of Iowa, in his address, alluding to the action of the brethren in Canada, says: ‘I would recommend that you acknowledge the legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that your decisions be communicated to that Grand Lodge.’ The committee on Foreign Correspondence, say:

“‘Since the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, an important change in Canadian affairs have been announced. The relations heretofore existing between the Provincial Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of England have been suspended, and all the facts connected with this important measure, have been set forth by our Canadian brethren in a communication which they have issued to the Fraternity throughout the world.

“‘The high character which the Masons of Canada have sustained, and their strict adherence to the established principles and usages of the Order, as well as the cordial fraternal intercourse between them and the Craft in the United States, has attracted an unusual attention to this movement, and excited investigation on the part of our ablest Masons, as to the causes which justified it.

“‘This inquiry has been conducted calmly and with impartiality. No great question has ever been presented to the Fraternity in America which has received a more dispassionate consideration. A profound desire to prevent any innovations upon the Constitutions of Masonry, mingled with a feeling of kindness and sympathy for our Canadian brethren, has characterized all that your committee has read upon this subject, and the action, based upon the conclusion which most of the Grand Lodges of this country have adopted, has been

taken with a sincere respect and deference to the Grand Lodge of England, the only Masonic body with which opinions and actions upon this subject would be likely to conflict.

“ ‘The judicious course pursued by our brethren of Canada, upon an occasion of so much importance, has had a most happy influence upon the Fraternity elsewhere. Their new position is not the result of violent rupture or angry revolution. Political sympathies or antipathies have had no agency in bringing it to pass. Their course has been taken after mature reflection, and with a full belief that the best interests of Masonry in Canada would be subserved by it. The series of meetings and proceedings which finally eventuated in the formation of their independent Grand Lodge, have been particularly distinguished by a respect for the allegiance which they had yielded to the Grand Lodge of England, as well as by that higher and more commanding allegiance which every Mason owes to the spirit, letter, and welfare of the Institution, as laid down in our Ancient Charges and Constitutions.’

“ And a special committee say :

“ ‘The committee to whom was referred the communication from a Grand Lodge of Masons in Canada, announcing the organization of an independent Grand Lodge in that Province, report,

“ ‘That having examined this communication with much care, and weighed the reasons which it sets forth as influencing the action of the Craft in Canada ; as well as giving due respect and attention to the opinions and actions of several American and foreign jurisdictions upon this subject, they recommend to this Grand Lodge *a cordial recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada* recently formed, of which Wm. M. Wilson is Grand Master, and Thos. Bird Harris, Grand Secretary ; and that they coincide in the opinion expressed by the M. W. Grand Master of Iowa, as to its legitimacy, and recommend that a full fraternal intercourse and friendship be extended to the said Grand Lodge of Canada.

“ ‘They also offer the following :

“ ‘*Resolved*, That a copy of this action of the Grand Lodge of Iowa be forwarded by the Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of Canada.’

“ The Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, after a full statement of the causes of grievances complained of by the Masons of Canada, say :

“ ‘From another source we learn that the charters of the forty-one Lodges were severally surrendered to the sources from which they emanated. We have nothing from the Grand Lodges of England on the subject, nor are we able to say what are the boundaries of the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge, according to its own regulations. We perceive, from the *Freemasons’ Magazine*, published in London, that what is said about the long and unbroken silence of the Grand

Lodge of England towards these complaints from Canada, is fully confirmed. Taking all that is stated in the Canada document as strictly correct (as we fully believe is the case), we think the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada right and proper, and that this Grand Lodge ought at once to tender to her the right hand of fellowship.'

"We will now close with one other extract from the report of a distinguished Mason, whose opinions we consider good authority. Brother A. G. Mackey, R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, in his report to the Grand Lodge, says :

" 'One of the most interesting events that has occurred in the Masonic history of the past year, is the organization of an independent Grand Lodge in Canada. Since the first establishment of Masonry in that Province, it has been governed by a Provincial Grand Lodge, holding its charter from the United Grand Lodge of England, while much trouble and annoyance has been felt from the existence of other Lodges under warrants granted by the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The Provincial Grand Lodge holding this subordinate position, cramped in its energies by its dependence on the mother country, and drained of its revenues by the large returns that it was compelled to pay to its superior, having in vain appealed for a redress of its grievances and for a modification in its character, at length with the true spirit of America, determined to right itself, and accordingly at a convention of the Lodges holden on the 10th of October last, an independent Grand Lodge was formed. It is not to be doubted, that the Grand Lodges of the United States will, with one accord, extend the right hand of fellowship and recognition to this their younger sister.'

"All of which your committee respectfully submit, with the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Florida, cordially extend to their brethren of the Grand Lodge of Canada, the right hand of fellowship, with fraternal greeting, and a hearty welcome into the family of American Grand Lodges.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary send the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

"THOS. BROWN, *Chairman*."

Whereupon, the report was received, and the resolutions unanimously adopted.

On motion.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to Brother Brown, for his able report, just read :

Which was unanimously adopted.

Called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

The Grand Secretary presented the petition from a legal number of

Master Masons, at Gainesville, Fla., for a charter, in proper form; which was referred to the committee on By-Laws and Dispensations.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made the following report :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws beg leave to report that they have examined a new code of by-laws, as adopted by Columbia Lodge, No. 27, and find them correct, and in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient constitutions of Masonry, and recommend their approval by the Grand Lodge.

"They have also received from Mackey Lodge No. —, at Mineral Springs, in Columbia county, a dispensation returned, which had been granted to a constitutional number of Masons at that place, to open a Lodge. The officers represent that, from various and good causes, they had not been able during the past year, to organize the Lodge, but have every prospect of being able to do so within the present year and they respectfully ask that the dispensation be continued, which your committee recommend.

"The committee find the returns from Ira Carpenter Lodge, under dispensation, correct, and recommend a charter be granted them.

"They also found the returns of Alachua county, under dispensation, correct, and recommend a charter be granted, and Brother Duval, their representative, be permitted to take his seat in the Grand Lodge.

"Also, the returns and by-laws of Orion Lodge, under dispensation, were also found correct, and we recommend a charter be granted, and that the officers of said Lodge be allowed to take their seats in the Grand Lodge.

"JAMES ELLENWOOD, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and adopted.

Brother D. P. Holland, offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the report of the select committee of the late Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Florida, as relates to the granting of limits by subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be, and the same is hereby repealed."

Which was adopted.

The Craft were called to refreshment, until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, January 14, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge then went into an election for Grand Officers, for the ensuing year, when the following named brothers were declared duly elected :

M. W. T. Y. HENRY, Grand Master.

R. W. JAMES M. BARKER, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. D. W. McCRAVIE, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. G. M. HOUSTON, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
 R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
 R. Rev. McK. TYDINGS, Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

R. W. M. WHIT SMITH, Grand Lecturer.
 R. W. F. C. BARRETT, District Grand Lecturer, Eastern District.
 R. W. JOSEPH MOORE, District Grand Lecturer, Southern District.
 R. W. SAMUEL IRVIN, District Grand Lecturer, Western District.
 R. Rev. J. R. PLUMMER, Grand Orator.
 R. W. L. A. CHURCH, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. D. K. McDUGAL, Grand Junior Warden.
 W. D. P. HOLLAND, Grand Marshal.
 W. H. T. FISHER, Grand Sword-Bearer.
 W. JOHN P. DUVAL, Grand Pursuivant.
 Brother GEORGE DAMON, Grand Tyler,

The Craft were called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made the following report :

"Your committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, beg leave to report, that we have to report, that we have examined the by-laws of Orient Lodge, No. 37, Alachua Lodge, No. 26, and Ira Carpenter Lodge, No. 39, and find them in accordance with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge and the ancient usages of Masonry, and recommend their approval by the Grand Lodge.

"JAMES ELLENWOOD, *Chairman.*"

Which was received and concurred in.

Brother M. Whit Smith offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the action of Alachua Lodge, No. 26, restoring Brother Archibald Hague to the benefits of Masonry, and membership in said Lodge, be approved by this Grand Lodge ; at the same time, this Grand Lodge disclaims all jurisdiction in the premises."

Which was adopted.

Brother Thomas Hayward offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated out of the funds of this Grand Lodge, not otherwise appropriated, as a loan to Brother Robert Morris.

Which was unanimously adopted.

Brother Foster, of Concordia Lodge, No. 28, delivered the lecture in the second degree of Freemasonry.

Brother G. M. Houston, of Jefferson Lodge, No. 33, delivered the lecture in the third degree of Freemasonry.

The Grand Lecturer, Brother James Ellenwood, exemplified the work in opening the Lodge in the first degree of Freemasonry.

Brothers Dawkins, Houston, and Mitchell exemplified the work in opening a Lodge.

Called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 15, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

Brother Holland offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the representative of any Lodge whose dues have been or may be remitted by this Grand Lodge, shall not be entitled to nor receive any compensation for mileage or per diem, for attendance as such representative on the Grand Lodge, at the communication when said dues were remitted ; this resolution shall govern the Grand Treasurer at this and all future communications, and he is hereby required to pay the representatives of only those Lodges whose dues have been paid and not remitted."

Which was referred to a select committee, consisting of Brothers Holland, Ives, and Dawkins, who reported favorably, and, on ballot, was adopted unanimously.

The Grand Master-elect, Brother Thomas Y. Henry, was then duly installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida, by P. G. M. Thomas Hayward, who installed Brother G. M. Houston, as Grand Senior Warden, and Brother the Rev. R. McK. Tydings as Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Senior Warden was excused from further attendance.

On motion,

"Resolved, That hereafter the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Masters of subordinate Lodges, in no case shall be installed by proxy."

Brother Ives offered a resolution in relation to writing out the early history of Freemasonry in Florida.

Which was referred to a select committee, consisting of Brothers Brown, Hayward, Ives, Smith, Call, Joseph Moore, and Jesse Coe, Sr.

On motion, the Grand Secretary was ordered to inform the committee of their appointment.

Called to refreshment until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, January 16, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, made the following report :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws report, that we have examined the By-Laws of Gee Lodge, No. 21, and find them in accordance with the Constitution, and recommend their approval."

Which was adopted.

Called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

Brother Holland offered the following resolutions :

" *Resolved*, by the Grand Lodge of Florida, That the Master and Wardens of each subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction be, and are hereby required to be present in person at Alligator, on the fourth Monday in May, 1857, for the purpose of adopting a uniform system of work in this jurisdiction.

" *Resolved*, That the officers of the Grand Lodge of Florida be, and are hereby required to be present at said convention.

" *Resolved*, That the Past Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge be, and are hereby invited and requested to attend.

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Master be, and is hereby requested to cause summonses to be issued, in accordance with the above resolutions."

Which were adopted.

On motion of Brother Stephens, it was

" *Ordered*, That the Secretary and Treasurer of this Grand Lodge be authorized to procure a portrait of our late Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, John P. Duval, to be taken in full regalia, and that the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay out the amount required from any funds now in hand."

Which was received and adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, January 17, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The usual orders were passed, and the Grand Lodge was closed in
AMPLE FORM.

THOMAS Y. HENRY, *Grand Master*.

JNO. B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.

APPENDIX.

OF TRIALS AND APPEALS.

When any brother shall be accused of an offense, the proceedings shall be conducted in the following manner :

RULE 1. The charges and specifications shall be made in writing, and shall be signed by a Master Mason, or the committee of the Lodge, and delivered to the Secretary of the proper Lodge having jurisdiction over the accused.

RULE 2. The Secretary shall make out a true copy of the charges and specifications, and attest the same, and deliver it so attested to the accused, ten days at least before the time of trial.

RULE 3. If the residence of the accused be not within ten miles of the place of meeting of the Lodge, an attested copy of the charges and specifications, enclosed by mail to the post office nearest to the residence of the accused, twenty days before the day of trial, shall be deemed good notice.

RULE 4. If the residence of the accused be unknown to all the members of the Lodge, the trial may be had *ex parte*.

RULE 5. If the accused reside out of the State, and his residence be known, the Secretary of the Lodge shall send to him by mail, an attested copy of the charges and specifications, at least sixty days before the day of trial ; and if the accused fail to appear at the expiration of sixty days, then an attested copy of the charges and specifications shall be sent to the presiding officer of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, with request to have the same served, and if the accused still fail to appear at the expiration of thirty days, then the Lodge may proceed to try the case *ex parte*.

RULE 6. The examination of the charges shall be in a Lodge specially convened for the purpose, at which no visitor shall be admitted except witnesses and counsel.

RULE 7. The accused may select any brother as his counsel, and the witnesses, if not Masons, shall testify upon oath, and if Masons, upon their honor as such ; hearsay evidence shall be excluded, and the best evidence shall be introduced.

RULE 8. If the witnesses cannot or will not attend at the Lodge, their depositions may be taken and read as evidence.

RULE 9. Notice of the time and place of taking depositions shall be

given in writing to the opposite party, a reasonable time previous to the time of taking the same.

RULE 10. The deposition shall be reduced to writing by the Secretary, or by some brother appointed by the W. Master for that purpose, and sealed up in the presence of the deponent.

RULE 11. Notice to a Lodge to take the depositions of witnesses, may be made by delivering a written notice to the Secretary or Master of the Lodge, as above provided.

RULE 12. The Lodge shall appoint some brother, who shall reduce to writing the whole evidence and answers in the case.

RULE 13. When the testimony is closed, the question upon each specification shall be distinctly put by the Master, to every member present, beginning with the youngest in Masonic age—"Is the accused guilty or not guilty?" The answer shall be given standing, and in an audible manner, and the Secretary shall record the answer.

RULE 14. If the accused be found guilty, the Lodge by vote shall assess the punishment due to the offense.

RULE 15. No Mason shall be suspended or expelled by any Lodge, except by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present, and no Mason so expelled can be restored to the privileges of Masonry by a subordinate Lodge, except the same be convened specially for that purpose, and then only by a unanimous vote.

RULE 16. The accused, or any Master Mason, member of a Lodge under this jurisdiction, feeling aggrieved by the decision of the Lodge, upon the trial of any brother, may take his appeal from the judgment and decision, to the Grand Lodge.

RULE 17. The appeal shall be made in writing, and may be in the following form :

"I, ———, a Master Mason, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Florida, do declare upon my honor as a Mason, that I feel materially aggrieved by the decision of ——— Lodge, No. —, in the case of ———, charged with ———, and for re-hearing of the case, and to the end that justice may be done in the matter, do take my appeal to said Grand Lodge for the following reasons :———.

"Dated, ———.

"Signed, ———, Appellant."

RULE 18. The appeal shall be signed by the appellant, and filed with the Secretary of the Lodge, within ten days after the trial and judgment, and not afterwards.

RULE 19. The Secretary of the Lodge shall record the appeal, and transmit to the Grand Lodge at the next meeting thereof, a true copy of the evidence in the cause, together with the appeal certified under his hand and seal of office.

RULE 20. The Grand Lodge, on the receipt of the appeal and evidence, shall proceed to examine and try the cause, upon the evidence

so transmitted without any other testimony, and decide the matter finally.

RULE 21. The Grand Lodge may reverse the decision of a subordinate Lodge, whereby a brother is suspended or expelled, but such reversal shall in no case restore the accused to membership in the Lodge, without the unanimous consent of the members thereof.

RULE 22. The Grand Lodge shall proceed to hear and decide the cause at its earliest convenience, and the judgment shall be final.

RULE 23. In all cases of accusations and trials before the Grand Lodge, the rules and regulations governing trials in subordinate Lodges, shall prevail.

E. R. IVES,
THOS. HAYWARD.

THE
CONSTITUTIONS
OF THE
FREEMASONS;

CONTAINING THE

History, Charges and Regulations

OF THAT MOST

ANCIENT AND RIGHT, WORSHIPFUL FRATERNITY.

FOR THE USE OF THE LODGES.

COMPILED BY
JAMES ANDERSON, M.A.

LONDON:

Printed by WM. HURZEN, for JOHN SEWEX, at the *Globe*, and JOHN HOOKS at the *Flower-de-Luce*, over-
against *St. Dunston's Church*, in Fleet st.

In the Year of Masonry, 5723—Anno Domini, 1723.

NEW YORK:

REPUBLISHED, FAC SIMILE, BY
BROTHER JOHN W. LEONARD.

1855.

DEDICATION.

TO

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF MONTAGU.

MY LORD,

BY Order of his GRACE the DUKE OF WHARTON, the present Right Worshipful GRAND MASTER of the FREE-MASONS ; and, as his Deputy, I humbly dedicate this BOOK OF THE CONSTITUTIONS of our ancient FRATERNITY to your GRACE, in testimony of your honourable, prudent, and vigilant discharge of the office of our GRAND MASTER last year.

I need not tell your GRACE what pains our learned AUTHOR has taken in compiling and digesting this book from the OLD RECORDS, and how accurately he has compared and made everything agreeable to HISTORY and CHRONOLOGY, so as to render these NEW CONSTITUTIONS a just and exact account of MASONRY from the beginning of the World to your GRACE'S MASTERSHIP, still preserving all that was truly ancient and authentick in the old ones : For every Brother will be pleased with the performance, that knows it had your GRACE'S perusal and approbation, and that it is now printed for the use of the LODGES, after it was approved by the GRAND LODGE, when your GRACE was GRAND MASTER. All the BROTHERHOOD will ever remember the honour your GRACE has done them, and your care for their Peace, Harmony, and lasting Friendship : Which none is more duly sensible of than,

My LORD,

Your GRACE'S

Most oblig'd, and

Most obedient Servant,

And Faithful Brother,

J. T. DESAGULIERS,

Deputy Grand-Master.

THE
CONSTITUTION,
HISTORY, LAWS, CHARGES, ORDERS, REGULATIONS, AND USAGES,
OF THE
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL FRATERNITY
OF
ACCEPTED FREEMASONS;

COLLECTED

From their General Records, and the faithful Traditions of many Ages.

TO BE READ

At the Admission of a NEW BROTHER, when the MASTER or WARDEN shall begin, or order some other Brother to read as follows :

ADAM, our first parent, created after the image of God, the great Architect of the Universe, must have had the Liberal Sciences, particularly GEOMETRY, written on his heart ; for, even since the fall we find the principles of it in the hearts of his offspring, and which, in process of time, have been drawn forth into a convenient method of propositions, by observing the LAWS of PROPORTION, taken from Mechanism ; so that, as the Mechanical Arts gave occasion to the learned to reduce the elements of Geometry into method, this noble science, thus reduced, is the foundation of all those arts, (particularly of MASONRY and ARCHITECTURE) and the rule by which they are conducted and performed.

No doubt ADAM taught his sons Geometry, and the use of it, in the several arts and crafts convenient, at least, for those early times ; for CAIN, we find, built a city, which he called Consecrated, or Dedicated, after the name of his eldest son ENOCH ; and becoming the Prince of the one half of mankind, his posterity would imitate his royal example in improving both the noble science and the useful art.*

Nor can we suppose that SETH was less instructed, who being the Prince of the other half of mankind, and also the prime cultivator of Astronomy, would take equal care to teach Geometry and Masonry to

* As other Arts were also improved by them, viz : working in metal by TUBAL CAIN, music by JUBAL, pasturage and tent-making by JABAL, which last is good architecture.

his offspring, who had also the mighty advantage of ADAM's living among them.*

But without regarding uncertain accounts, we may safely conclude the Old World, that lasted 1,656 years, could not be ignorant of Masonry; and that both the families of SETH and CAIN erected many curious works, until at length NOAH, the ninth from SETH, was commanded and directed of God to build the great Ark, which, though of wood, was certainly fabricated by Geometry, and according to the rules of Masonry.

NOAH, and his three sons, JAPHET, SHEM, and HAM, all Masons true, brought with them over the flood the traditions and arts of the antediluvians, and amply communicated them to their growing offspring; for about 101 years after the flood, we find a vast number of them, if not the whole race of NOAH, in the vale of Shinar, employed in building a city and large tower, in order to make to themselves a name, and to prevent their dispersion. And though they carried on the work to a monstrous height, and by their vanity provoked God to confound their devices, by confounding their speech, which occasioned their dispersion, yet their skill in Masonry is not the less to be celebrated, having spent above 53 years in that prodigious work, and upon their dispersion carried the mighty knowledge with them into distant parts, where they found the good use of it in the settlement of their kingdoms, commonwealths, and dynasties. And though afterwards it was lost in most parts of the earth, it was especially preserved in Shinar and Assyria, where NIMROD,† the founder of that monarchy, after the dispersion, built many splendid cities, as Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in Shinar; from whence afterwards he went forth into Assyria, and built Niniveh, Rehoboth, Calah, and Rhesin.

In these parts, upon the Tygris and Euphrates, afterwards flourished many learned priests and Mathematicians, known by the names of Chaldees and Magi, who preserved the good science Geometry, as the kings and great men encouraged the Royal Art. But it is not expedient to speak more plain of the premises, except in a formed Lodge.

From hence, therefore, the Science and Art were both transmitted to latter ages and distant climes, notwithstanding the confusion of lan-

* For by some vestiges of antiquity we find one of 'em, godly ENOCH, (who dy'd not, but was translated alive to Heaven) prophecyng of the final conflagration AT THE DAY OF JUDGMENT (as St. JUDE tells us) and likewise of the general Deluge for the punishment of the world: Upon which he erected his two large pillars, (tho' some ascribe them to Seth) the one of stone and the other of brick, whereon were engraven the Liberal Sciences, &c. And that the stone pillar remain'd in Syria until the days of VESPASIAN the Emperor.

† NIMROD, which signifies a REBEL, was the name given him by the holy Family, and by MOSES; but among his friends in CHALDEA, his proper name was BELUS, which signifies LORD; and afterwards was worshipped as a God by many nations, under the name of BEL, or BAAL, and became the BACCHUS of the Ancients, or BAR CHUS, the son of CHUS.

guages or dialects, which, though it might help to give rise to the Masons' faculty and ancient universal practice of conversing without speaking, and of knowing each other at a distance, yet hindered not the improvement of Masonry in each colony, and their communication in their distinct and national dialect.

And no doubt the Royal Art was brought down to Egypt by MITZRAIM, the second son of HAM, about six years after the confusion at Babel, and after the flood 160 years, when he led thither his colony; (for Egypt is MITZRAIM in Hebrew) because we find the river Nile's overflowing its banks soon caused an improvement in Geometry, which consequently brought Masonry much in request; for the ancient noble cities, with the other magnificent edifices of that country, and particularly the famous Pyramids, demonstrate the early taste and genius of that ancient kingdom. Nay, one of those Egyptian Pyramids* is reckoned the first of the seven wonders of the world, the account of which, by historians and travellers, is almost incredible.

The Sacred Records inform us well that the eleven great sons of CANAAN (the youngest son of HAM) soon fortified themselves in strongholds and stately walled cities, and erected most beautiful temples and mansions; for, when the Israelites, under the great JOSHUA, invaded their country, they found it so regularly fenced, that without the immediate intervention of God in behalf of his peculiar people, the Canaanites were impregnable and invincible. Nor can we suppose less of the other sons of Ham, viz.: CHUSH, his eldest, in South Arabia, and PHUT, or PHUTS, (now called FEZ) in West Africa.

And surely the fair and gallant posterity of JAPHET, (the eldest son of NOAH) even such as travelled into the isles of the Gentiles, must have been equally skilled in Geometry and Masonry; though we know little of their transactions and mighty works until their original knowledge was almost lost by the havock of war, and by not maintaining a due correspondence with the polite and learned nations; for, when that correspondence was opened in after ages, we find they began to be most curious architects.

The posterity of SHEM had also equal opportunities of cultivating the useful arts, even those of them that planted their colonies in the south and east of Asia, much more those of them that in the great Assyrian empire lived in a separate state, or were blended with other families: nay, that holy branch of SHEM (of whom, as concerning the flesh, Christ came) could not be unskilful in the learned arts of Assyria; for ABRAM, after the confusion at Babel about 268 years, was called out of Ur

* The marble stones, brought a vast way from the quarries of ARABIA, were most of 'em 30 foot long; and its foundation cover'd the ground 700 foot on each side, or 2800 foot in compass, and 481 in perpendicular height. And in perfecting it were employ'd every day, for twenty whole years, 360,000 men, by some ancient EGYPTIAN KING, long before the ISRAELITES were a people, for the honor of his Empire, and at last to become his TOMB.

of the Chaldees, where he learned Geometry, and the arts that are performed by it, which he would carefully transmit to ISHMAEL, to ISAAC, and to his sons by KETURAH ; and by ISAAC, to ESAU and JACOB, and the twelve patriarchs ; nay, the Jews believe that ABRAM also instructed the Egyptians in the Assyrian learning.

Indeed, the select family long used military architecture only, as they were sojourners among strangers ; but before the 430 years of their peregrination were expired, even about 86 years before their exodus, the Kings of Egypt forced most of them to lay down their shepherd's instruments and warlike accoutrements, and trained them to another sort of architecture in stone and brick, as Holy Writ and other histories acquaint us, which God did wisely over-rule, in order to make them good Masons before they possessed the promised land, then famous for most curious Masonry.

And while marching to Canaan, through Arabia, under MOSES, God was pleased to inspire BEZALEEL, of the tribe of Judah, and AHOIAB, of the tribe of Dan, with wisdom of heart for erecting that most glorious tent or tabernacle, wherein the Shechinah resided, which, though not of stone or brick, was framed by Geometry, a most beautiful piece of architecture, (and proved afterwards the model of SOLOMON'S Temple) according to the pattern that God had shown MOSES in the Mount ; who therefore became the General Master Mason, as well as King of Jessurun, being well skilled in all the Egyptian learning, and divinely inspired with more sublime knowledge in Masonry.

So that the Israelites, at their leaving Egypt, were a whole kingdom of Masons, well instructed, under the conduct of their Grand Master MOSES, who often marshalled them into a regular and general Lodge, while in the wilderness, and gave them wise charges, orders, &c., had they been well observed ! But no more of the premises must be mentioned.

And after they were possessed of Canaan, the Israelites came not short of the old inhabitants in Masonry, but rather vastly improved it, by the special direction of Heaven ; they fortified better, and improved their city houses and the palaces of their chiefs, and only fell short in sacred architecture while the Tabernacle stood, but no longer ; for the finest sacred building of the Canaanites was the Temple of Dagon in Gaza of the Philistines, very magnificent, and capacious enough to receive 5000 people under its roof, that was artfully supported by two main columns,* and was a wonderful discovery of their mighty skill in true Masonry, as must be owned.

* By which the glorious SAMSON pull'd it down upon the Lords of the PHILISTINES, and was also entangled in the same death which he drew upon his enemies for putting out his eyes, after he had reveal'd his secrets to his wife, that betray'd him into their hands ; for which weakness he never had the honor to be numbered among Masons : But it is not convenient to write more of this.

But Dagon's Temple, and the finest structures of Tyre and Sidon, could not be compared with the Eternal Gon's Temple at Jerusalem, begun and finished, to the amazement of all the world, in the short space of seven years and six months, by that wisest man and most glorious King of Israel, the Prince of Peace and Architecture, SOLOMON, (the son of DAVID, who was refused that honour for being a man of blood) by divine direction, without the noise of workmen's tools, though there were employed about it no less than 3,600 Princes,* or Master Masons, to conduct the work according to SOLOMON's directions, with 80,000 hewers of stone in the mountain, or Fellow Craftsmen, and 70,000 labourers, in all - - - - - 153,600

Besides the levy under ADONIRAM to work in the mountains

of Lebanon by turns with the Sidonians, viz : - - - 30,000

being in all - - - - - 183,600

for which great number of ingenious Masons, SOLOMON was much obliged to HIRAM, or HURAM, King of Tyre, who sent his masons and carpenters to Jerusalem, and the firs and cedars of Lebanon to Joppa, the next sea-port.

But above all, he sent his namesake HIRAM, or HURAM, the most accomplished Mason upon earth.†

* In 1 Kings, v. 16, they are call'd **הָרָדִים** HARODIM, Rulers or Provosts assisting King SOLOMON, who were set over the work, and their number there is only 3,300 : But 2 CHRON. II. 18, they are called **מְנַצְחִים** MENATZCHIM, Overseers and Comforters of the people in working, and in number 3,600 ; because either 300 might be more curious artists, and the OVERSEERS of the said 3,300, or rather, not so excellent, and only DEPUTY-MASTERS, to supply their places in case of death or absence, that so there might be always 3,300 ACTING MASTERS compleat ; or else they might be OVERSEERS of the 70,000 **אִישׁ שָׁבֵל** ISH SABBAL, men of burden, or labourers, who were not Masons, but served the 80,000 **אִישׁ חֹצֵב** ISH CHOTZEB, men of Hewing, called also **גִּבְלִים** GHIBLIM, stone-cutters and sculpturers ; and also, **בְּנֵי בֹנֵי** Builders in stone, part of which belonged to SOLOMON, and part to HIRAM, King of TYRE, 1 Kings, v. 18.

† We read (2 CHRON. II. 13.) HIRAM, King of Tyte, (called there HURAM) in his letter to King SOLOMON, says, I HAVE SENT A CUNNING MAN, **לְהוּרָם אֲבִי** LE HURAM ABHI, not to be translated according to the vulgar GREEK and LATIN, HURAM MY FATHER, as if this Architect was King HIRAM's father ; for his description, ver. 14, refutes it, and the original plainly imports HURAM OF MY FATHER'S, viz : the chief MASTER-MASON of my Father, King ABIBULUS ; (who enlarg'd and beautify'd the city of TYRE, as ancient histories inform us, whereby the TYRIANS at this time were most expert in MASONRY) tho' some think HIRAM the King might call HIRAM the Architect Father, as learned and skillful men were wont to be call'd of old times, or as JOSEPH was call'd the Father of PHARAOH ; and as the same HIRAM is call'd SOLOMON's Father, (2 CHRON. IV. 16.) where 'tis said

עָשָׂה חוּרָם אֲבִי שְׁלֹמֹה
SHELOMOH LAMMELECH ABHIF CHURAM GHNASAH,
DID HURAM, HIS FATHER, MAKE TO KING SOLOMON.

But the difficulty is over at once, by allowing the word ABIF to be the surname of HIRAM the Mason, called also (Chap II. 13.) HIRAM ABI, as here HIRAM ABIF ; for being

And the prodigious expence of it also enhaunceth its excellency ; for besides King DAVID's vast preparations, his richer son SOLOMON, and all the wealthy Israelites, and the nobles of all the neighbouring kingdoms, largely contributed towards it in gold, silver, and rich jewels, that amounted to a sum almost incredible.

Nor do we read of anything in Canaan so large, the wall that inclosed it being 7,700 foot in compass ; far less any holy structure fit to be named with it, for exactly proportioned and beautiful dimensions, from the magnificent porch on the east to the glorious and reverend Sanctum Sanctorum on the west, with most lovely and convenient apartments for the Kings and Princes, Priests and Levites, Israelites, and Gentiles also ; it being an House of Prayer for all nations, and capable of receiving in the Temple proper, and in all its courts and apartments together, no less than 300,000 people, by a modest calculation, allowing a square cubit to each person.

And if we consider the 1,453 columns of Parian marble, with twice as many Pillasters, both having glorious capitals of several orders, and about 2,246 windows, besides those in the pavement, with the unspeakable and costly decorations of it within ; (and much more might be said) we must conclude its prospect to transcend our imagination ; and that it was justly esteemed by far the finest piece of Masonry upon earth before or since, and the chief wonder of the world ; and was dedicated or consecrated, in the most solemn manner, by King SOLOMON.

But leaving what must not, and indeed cannot be communicated by writing, we may warrantably affirm, that however ambitious the heathen were in cultivating of the Royal Art, it was never perfected

so amply describ'd, (Chap. ii. 14.) we may easily suppose his surname would not be concealed : And this reading makes the sense plain and compleat, viz. that HIRAM, King of Tyre, sent to King SOLOMON his namesake HIRAM ABIF, the Prince of Architects, describ'd (1 Kings, vii. 14) to be a Widow's Son of the Tribe of Naphtali ; and in (2 Chron. ii. 14) the said King of Tyre calls him the son of a woman of the daughters of DAN ; and in both places, that his father was a man of Tyre ; which difficulty is remov'd, by supposing his Mother was either of the Tribe of DAN, or of the Daughters of the city call'd DAN in the Tribe of NAPHTALI, and his deceased Father had been a NAPHTALITE, whence his Mother was call'd a widow of Naphtali ; for his Father is not call'd a Tyrian by descent, but a man of Tyre by habitation ; as OBED EDOM the Levite is call'd a Gittite by living among the Gittites, and the Apostle PAUL a man of Tarsus. But supposing a mistake in transcribers, and that his Father was really a Tyrian by blood, and his Mother only of the Tribe of DAN or NAPHTALI, that can be no bar against allowing of his vast capacity ; for as his Father was a worker in brass, so he himself was fill'd with wisdom and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass : And as King SOLOMON sent for him, so King HIRAM, in his letter to SOLOMON, says, And now I have sent a cunning man, endued with understanding, skillful to work in gold, silver, brass, iron, stone, timber, purple, blue, fine linnen and crimson ; also to grave any manner of graving, and to find out every device which shall be put to him, with thy cunning men, and with the cunning men of my Lord DAVID thy Father. This divinely inspired workman maintain'd this character in erecting the Temple, and in working the utensils thereof, far beyond the performances of AHOLIAH and BEZALEEL, being also universally capable of all sorts of Masonry.

until God condescended to instruct his peculiar people in rearing the above-mentioned stately tent, and in building at length this gorgeous house, fit for the special refulgence of his glory, where he dwelt between the Cherubims on the Mercy-Seat, and from thence gave them frequent oraculous responses.

This most sumptuous, splendid, beautiful, and glorious edifice, attracted soon the inquisitive artists of all nations to spend some time at Jerusalem, and survey its peculiar excellencies, as much as was allowed to the Gentiles, whereby they soon discovered that all the world, with their joint skill, came far short of the Israelites in the wisdom and dexterity of architecture, when the wise King SOLOMON was Grand Master of the Lodge at Jerusalem, and the learned King HIRAM was Grand Master of the Lodge at Tyre, and the inspired HIRAM ABIF was Master of Work, and Masonry was under the immediate care and direction of Heaven, when the noble and the wise thought it their honour to be assisting to the ingenious Masters and Craftsmen, and when the Temple of the true God became the wonder of all travellers, by which, as by the most perfect pattern, they corrected the architecture of their own country upon their return.

So that after the erection of SOLOMON'S Temple, Masonry was improved in all the neighbouring nations; for the many artists employed about, under HIRAM ABIF, after it was finished, dispersed themselves into Syria, Mesopotamia, Assyria, Chaldea, Babylonia, Media, Persia, Arabia, Africa, Lesser Asia, Greece, and other parts of Europe, where they taught this liberal art to the free born sons of eminent persons, by whose dexterity the kings, princes, and potentates built many glorious piles, and became the Grand Masters, each in his own territory, and were emulous of excelling in this Royal Art; nay, even in India, where the correspondence was open, we may conclude the same; but none of the nations, nor all together, could rival the Israelites, far less excel them, in Masonry, and their Temple remained the constant pattern.*

Nay, the Grand Monarch NEBUCHADNEZAR could never, with all his

* For tho' the Temple of Diana at Ephesus is suppos'd to have been first built by some of JAPHET'S posterity, that made a settlement in Jonia about the time of MOSES; yet it was often demolish'd, and then rebuilt for the sake of improvements in Masonry; and we cannot compute the period of its last glorious erection (that became another of the seven wonders of the world) to be prior to that of SOLOMON'S Temple: but that long afterwards the Kings of Lesser Asia join'd, for 220 years, in finishing it, with 107 columns of the finest marble, and many of them with most exquisite sculpture (each at the expence of a King, by the Master Mason'S DRESIPHON and ARCHIPHON) to support the plank'd cieling and roof of pure cedar, as the doors and linings were of cypress: Whereby it became the mistress of Lesser Asia, in length 425 foot, and in breadth 220 foot; Nay, so admirable a fabrick, that XERXES left it standing when he burnt all the other temples in his way to Greece; tho' at last it was set on fire and burnt down by a vile fellow, only for the lust of being talk'd of, on the very day that ALEXANDER the GREAT was born.

unspeakable advantages, carry up his Masonry to the beautiful strength and magnificence of the Temple work, which he had, in war-like rage, burnt down, after it had remained in splendor 416 years from its consecration. For after his wars were over, and general peace proclaimed, he set his heart on architecture, and became the Grand Master Mason; and having before led captive the ingenious artists of Judea, and other conquered countries, he raised indeed the largest work upon earth, even the walls* and city, the palaces and hanging gardens, the bridge and temple of Babylon, the third of the seven wonders of the world, though vastly inferior, in the sublime perfection of Masonry, to the holy, charming, lovely temple of God. But as the Jewish captives were of special use to NEBUCHADNEZZAR in his glorious buildings, so being thus kept at work, they retained their great skill in Masonry, and continued very capable of rebuilding the holy Temple and city of Salem upon its old foundations, which was ordered by the edict or decree of the grand CYRUS, according to God's Word that had foretold his exaltation and this decree: And CYRUS having constituted ZERUBBABEL, the son of SALATHIEL (of the seed of DAVID, by NATHAN, the brother of SOLOMON, whose royal family was now extinct,) the head, or Prince of the captivity, and the leader of the Jews and Israelites returning to Jerusalem, they began to lay the foundation of the second Temple, and would have soon finished it, if CYRUS had lived; but at length they put on the cape-stone, in the 6th year of DARIUS, the Persian monarch, when it was dedicated with joy and many great sacrifices by ZERUBBABEL, the Prince and General Master Mason of the Jews, about 20 years after the decree of the Grand CYRUS. And though this Temple of ZERUBBABEL came far short of SOLOMON's Temple, was not so richly adorned with gold and diamonds, and all manner of precious stones, nor had the Shechinah and the holy relicks of Moses in it, &c., yet being raised exactly upon SOLOMON's foundation, and according to his model, it was still the most regular, symmetrical, and glorious edifice in the whole world, as the enemies of the Jews have often testified and acknowledged.

* In thickness, 87 foot, in height 350 foot, and in compass 480 furlongs, or 60 British miles in an exact square of 15 miles a side, built of large bricks, cemented with the hard bitumen of that old vale of Shinar, with 100 gates of brass, or 25 a-side, and 250 towers ten foot higher than the wall.

From the said 25 gates in each side went 25 streets in strait lines, or in all 50 streets each 15 miles long, with four half streets next the walls, each 200 foot broad, as the entire streets were 150 foot broad: And so the whole city was thus cut out into 676 squares, each being 2 miles and $\frac{1}{2}$ in compass; round which were the houses built three or four stories high, well-adorn'd, and accommodated with yards, gardens, &c. A branch of the Euphrates run thro' the middle of it, from north to south, over which, in the heart of the city, was built a stately bridge, in length a furlong, and thirty foot in breadth, by wonderful art, for supplying the want of a foundation in the river. At the two ends of this bridge were two magnificent palaces, the old palace, the seat of ancient Kings, at the east end, upon the ground of four squares: and the new palace

At length the Royal Art was carried into Greece, whose inhabitants have left us no evidence of such improvements in Masonry, prior to SOLOMON'S Temple ;* for their most ancient buildings, as the Citadel of Athens, with the Parthenon, or Temple of Minerva, the Temples also of Theseus, of Jupiter Olympius, &c., their porticos also, and forums, their theatres and gymnasiums, their public halls, curious bridges, regular fortifications, stout ships of war, and stately palaces, were all erected after the Temple of SOLOMON, and most of them even after the Temple of ZERUBBABEL.

Nor do we find the Grecians arrived to any considerable knowledge

at the west end, built by NEBUCHADNEZZAR, upon the ground of nine squares, with hanging gardens (so much celebrated by the Greeks) where the loftiest trees could grow as in the fields, erected in a square of 400 foot, on each side, carried up by terraces, and sustained by vast arches built upon arches, until the highest terrace equal'd the height of the city-walls, with a curious aqueduct to water the whole gardens. Old Babel improv'd, stood on the east side of the river, and the new town on the west side, much larger than the old, and built in order to make this capital exceed old Niniveh, tho' it never had so many inhabitants by one half. The river was begirt with banks of brick, as thick as the city walls, in length twenty miles, viz. fifteen miles within the city, and two miles and a half above and below it, to keep the water within its channel ; and each street that cross'd the river had a brazen gate leading down to the water on both banks ; and west of the city was a prodigious lake, in compass 160 miles, with a canal from the river into it, to prevent inundations in the summer.

In the old town, was the old tower of Babel, at the foundation a square of half a mile in compass, consisting of eight square towers built over each other, with stairs on the out-side round it, going up to the observatory on the top, 600 foot high (which is 19 foot higher than the highest pyramid) whereby they became the first Astronomers. And in the rooms of the grand tower, with arched roofs, supported by pillars 75 foot high, the idolatrous worship of their God BELUS was perform'd, till now, that this mighty Mason and Monarch erected round this ancient pile a temple of two furlongs on every side, or a mile in compass; where he lodg'd the sacred trophies of SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, and the golden image 90 foot high, that he had consecrated in the plains of Dura, as were formerly in the tower lodg'd many other golden images, and many precious things, that were afterwards all seized by XERXES, and amounted to above 21 millions sterling.

And when all was finish'd, King NEBUCHADNEZZAR walking in state in his hanging gardens, and from thence taking a review of the whole city, proudly boasted of this his mighty work ; saying, is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the Kingdom, by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty ? but had his pride immediately rebuk'd by a voice from Heaven, and punish'd by brutal madness for seven years, until he gave glory to the God of Heaven, the Omnipotent Architect of the Universe, which he publish'd by a decree thro' all his empire, and dy'd next year, before his great Babylon was little more than half inhabited (tho' he had led many nations captive for that purpose) ; nor was it ever fully peopled ; for in 25 years after his death, the Grand CYRUS conquer'd it, and remov'd the throne to Shushan in Persia.

* The Grecians having been long degenerated into barbarity, forgetting their original skill in Masonry, (which their forefathers brought from Assyria) by their frequent mixtures with other barbarous nations, their mutual invasions, and wasting, bloody wars ; until by travelling and corresponding with the Asiatics and Egyptians, they reviv'd their knowledge in Geometry and Masonry both, though few of the Grecians had the honour to own it.

in Geometry before the great **THALES MILESIUS**, the philosopher, who died in the reign of **BELSHAZZAR**, and the time of the Jewish captivity. But his scholar, the greater **PYTHAGORAS**, proved the author of the 47th Proposition of **EUCLID**'s first book, which, if duly observed, is the foundation of all Masonry, sacred, civil, and military.*

The people of Lesser Asia about this time gave large encouragement to Masons for erecting all sorts of sumptuous buildings, one of which must not be forgot, being usually reckoned the fourth of the seven wonders of the world, viz.: the Mausoleum, or Tomb of **MAUSOLUS**, King of Caria, between Lycia and Jonia, at Halicarnassus, on the side of Mount Taurus, in that kingdom, at the command of **ARTEMISIA**, his mournful widow, as the splendid testimony of her love to him, built of the most curious marble, in circuit 411 foot, in height 25 cubits, surrounded with 26 columns of the most famous sculpture, and the whole open on all sides, with arches 73 foot wide, performed by the four principal Master Masons and engravers of those times, viz.: the east side by **SCOPAS**, the west by **LEOCHARES**, the north by **BRIAX**, and the south by **TIMOTHEUS**.

But after **PYTHAGORAS**, Geometry became the darling study of Greece, where many learned philosophers arose, some of whom invented sundry Propositions, or Elements of Geometry, and reduced them to the use of the mechanical arts.† Nor need we doubt that Masonry kept pace with Geometry; or rather, always followed it in proportioned gradual improvements, until the wonderful **EUCLID** of Tyre flourished at Alexandria, who, gathering up the scattered elements of Geometry, digested them into a method that was never yet mended, (and for which his name will be ever celebrated) under the patronage of **PROLOMEUS**, the son of **LAGUS**, King of Egypt, one of the immediate successors of **ALEXANDER** the Great.

And as the noble science came to be more methodically taught, the Royal Art was the more generally esteemed and improved among the

* **PYTHAGORAS** travell'd into Egypt the year that **THALES** dy'd, and living there among the Priests 22 years, became expert in Geometry, and in all the Egyptian learning, until he was captured by **CAMBYSES**, King of Persia, and sent to Babylon, where he was much conversant with the Chaldean Magi, and the learned Babylonish Jews, from whom he borrow'd great knowledge, that render'd him very famous in Greece and Italy, where afterwards he flourish'd and dy'd; when **MORDÉCAI** was the prime Minister of State to **AHASHUERUS** King of Persia, and ten years after **ZERUBBABEL**'s Temple was finish'd.

† Or borrow'd from other nations their pretended inventions, as **ANAXAGORAS**, **OENOPIDES**, **BRISO**, **ANTIPHO**, **DEMOCRITUS**, **HIPPOCRATES**, and **THEODORUS CYRENÆUS**, the Master of the Divine **PLATO**, who amplifi'd Geometry, and published the Arts Analytic; from whose Academy came forth a vast number, that soon dispers'd their knowledge to distant parts, as **LEODAMUS**, **THRÆTETUS**, **ARCHYTAS**, **LEON**, **EUDOXUS**, **MENACHMUS**, and **XENOCRATES**, the Master of **ARISTOTLE**, from whose Academy also came forth **EUEMUS**, **THEOPHRASTUS**, **ARISTÆUS**, **ISIDORUS**, **HYPSICLES**, and many others.

Grecians, who at length arrived to the same skill and magnificence in it with their teachers, the Asiatics and Egyptians.

The next King of Egypt, *PTOLOMEUS PHILADELPHUS*, that great improver of the liberal arts and of all useful knowledge, who gathered the greatest library upon earth, and had the Old Testament (at least the Pentateuch) first translated into Greek, became an excellent architect and General Master Mason, having, among his other great buildings, erected the famous Tower of *Pharos*,* the fifth of the seven wonders of the world.

We may readily believe that the African nations, even to the Atlantic shore, did soon imitate Egypt in such improvements, though history fails, and there are no travellers encouraged to discover the valuable remains in Masonry, of those once renowned nations.

Nor should we forget the learned Island of Sicily, where the prodigious Geometrician *ARCHIMEDES* did flourish,† and was unhappily slain when Syracuse was taken by *MARCELLUS*, the Roman General; for from Sicily, as well as from Greece, Egypt and Asia, the ancient Romans learned both the science and the art, what they knew before being either mean or irregular; but as they subdued the nations, they made mighty discoveries in both; and, like wise men, led captive, not the body of the people, but the arts and sciences, with the most eminent professors and practitioners, to Rome, which thus became the centre of learning, as well as of imperial power, until they advanced to their zenith of glory, under *AUGUSTUS CÆSAR*, (in whose reign was born God's *MESSIAH*, the great Architect of the Church,) who, having laid the world quiet, by proclaiming universal peace, highly encouraged those dexterous artists that had been bred in the Roman liberty, and their learned scholars and pupils; but particularly the great *VITRUVIUS*, the father of all true architects to this day.

Therefore it is rationally believed that the glorious *AUGUSTUS* became the Grand Master of the Lodge at Rome, having, besides his patronizing *VITRUVIUS*, much promoted the welfare of the Fellow Craftsmen, as

* On an Island near Alexandria, at one of the mouths of the Nile, of wonderful height and most cunning workmanship, and all of the finest marble, and it cost 800 talents, or about 480,000 crowns. The Master of Work, under the King, was *SISTRATUS*, a most ingenious Mason; and it was afterwards much admired by *JULIUS CÆSAR*, who was a good judge of most things, though chiefly conversant in war and politics. It was intended as a light-house for the harbor of Alexandria, from which the light-houses in the Mediterranean were often called *Pharos*. Though some, instead of this, mention as the fifth wonder the great Obelisk of *SEMIRAMIS*, 150 foot high and 24 foot square at the bottom, or 90 foot in circuit at the ground, all one intire stone, rising pyramidically, brought from Armenia to Babylon, about the time of the siege of Troy, if we may believe the history of *SEMIRAMIS*.

† While *ERATOSTHENES* and *CONON* flourished in Greece, who were succeeded by the excellent *APOLLONIUS* of Perga, and many more before the birth of Christ, who, though not working Masons, yet were good Surveyors; or at least cultivated Geometry, which is the solid basis of true Masonry, and its rule.

appears by the many magnificent buildings of his reign, the remains of which are the pattern and standard of true Masonry in all future times, they are indeed an epitome of the Asiatic, Egyptian, Grecian, and Sicilian architecture, which we often express by the name of the Augustan style, and which we are now only endeavoring to imitate, and have not yet arrived to its perfection.

The old records of Masons afford large hints of their Lodges from the beginning of the world, in the polite nations, especially in times of peace, and when the civil power, abhorring tyranny and slavery, gave due scope to the bright and free genius of their happy subjects; for then always Masons, above all other artists, were the favorites of the eminent, and became necessary for their grand undertakings in any sort of materials, not only in stone, brick, timber, plaister, but even in cloth or skins, or whatever was used for tents, and for the various sorts of architecture.

Nor should it be forgot that painters also and statuaries* were always reckoned good Masons, as much as builders, stone-cutters, bricklayers, carpenters, joiners, upholders, or tentmakers, and a vast many other craftsmen that could be named, who perform according to Geometry, and the rules of building; though none since **HIRAM ABIF** has been renowned for cunning in all parts of Masonry; and of this enough.

But among the heathen, while the noble science Geometry† was duly cultivated, both before and after the reign of **AUGUSTUS**, even till the fifth century of the Christian æra, Masonry was had in great esteem and veneration; and while the Roman empire continued in its glory, the Royal Art was carefully propagated, even to the Ultima Thule, and a

* For it was not without good reason the ancients thought that the rules of the beautiful proportions in building were copied or taken from the proportions of the body natural. Hence **PHIDIAS** is reckoned in the number of ancient Masons, for erecting the statue of the goddess **NEMESIS** at Rhamnus, 10 cubits high, and that of **MINERVA** at Athens, 26 cubits high; and that of **JUPITER OLYMPIUS**, sitting in his temple in Achaia, between the cities of Elis and Pisa, made of innumerable small pieces of porphyry, so exceeding grand and proportioned that it was reckoned one of the seven wonders, as the famous Colossus at Rhodes was another, and the greatest statue that ever was erected, made of metal, and dedicated to the sun, 70 cubits high, like a great tower at a distance, at the entry of an harbour, striding wide enough for the largest ships under sail, built in 12 years by **CARES**, a famous Mason and statuary of Sicyon, and scholar to the great **LYSIPPUS** of the same fraternity. This mighty Colossus, after standing 56 years, fell by an earthquake, and lay in ruins, the wonder of the world, till Anno Dom. 600, when the Soldan of Egypt carried off its relicks, which loaded 900 camels.

† By **MENELAUS**, **CLAUDIUS**, **PROLOMEUS** (who was also the Prince of Astronomers), **PLUARCH**, **EUTOCIUS** (who recites the inventions of **PHILO**, **DIOCLES**, **NICOMEDES**, **SPHORUS**, and **HERON**, the learned mechanick), **KTESIBIUS** also, the inventor of pumps (celebrated by **VITREVIUS**, **PROCLUS**, **PLINY**, and **ATHENÆUS**), and **GEMINUS**, also equalled by some to **EUCLID**; so **DIOPHANTUS**, **NICOMACHUS**, **SERENUS**, **PROCLUS**, **PAPPUS**, **THEON**, &c., all Geometricians, and the illustrious cultivators of the mechanical arts.

Lodge erected in almost every Roman garrison ; whereby they generously communicated their cunning to the northern and western parts of Europe, which had grown barbarous before the Roman conquest, though we know not certainly how long ; because some think there are a few remains of good Masonry before that period in some parts of Europe, raised by the original skill that the first colonies brought with them, as the Celtic edifices, erected by the ancient Gauls, and by the ancient Britains too, who were a colony of the Celtes, long before the Romans invaded this island.*

But when the Goths and Vandals, that had never been conquered by the Romans, like a general deluge overran the Roman empire, with warlike rage and gross ignorance they utterly destroyed many of the finest edifices, and defaced others, very few escaping, as the Asiatic and African nations fell under the same calamity by the conquests of the Mahometans, whose grand design is only to convert the world by fire and sword, instead of cultivating the arts and sciences.

Thus, upon the declension of the Roman empire, when the British garrisons were drained, the Angles and other lower Saxons, invited by the ancient Britons to come over and help them against the Scots and Picts, at length subdued the south part of this island, which they called England, or Land of the Angles, who, being akin to the Goths, or rather a sort of Vandals, of the same warlike disposition, and as ignorant heathens, encouraged nothing but war, till they became Christians ; and then too late lamented the ignorance of their fathers in the great loss of Roman Masonry, but knew not how to repair it.

Yet, becoming a free people (as the old Saxon laws testify), and having a disposition for Masonry, they soon began† to imitate the

* The natives within the Roman colonies might be first instructed in building of citadels and bridges, and other fortifications necessary ; and afterwards, when their settlement produced peace, and liberty, and plenty, the aborigines did soon imitate their learned and polite conquerors in Masonry, having then leisure and a disposition to raise magnificent structures. Nay, even the ingenious of the neighbouring nations not conquered, learnt much from the Roman garrisons in times of peace and open correspondence, when they became emulous of the Roman glory, and thankful that their being conquered was the means of recovering them from ancient ignorance and prejudices, when they began to delight in the Royal Art.

† No doubt several Saxon and Scottish Kings, with many of the nobility, great gentry, and eminent clergy, became the Grand Masters of those early Lodges, from a mighty zeal then prevalent for building magnificent Christian temples ; which would also prompt them to inquire after the laws, charges, regulations, customs, and usages of the ancient Lodges, many of which might be preserved by tradition, and all of them very likely in those parts of the British Islands that were not subdued by the Saxons, from whence in time they might be brought, and which the Saxons were more fond of, than careful to revive Geometry and Roman Masonry ; as many in all ages have been more curious and careful about the laws, forms, and usages of their respective societies, than about the arts and sciences thereof.

But neither what was conveyed, nor the manner how, can be communicated by writing, as no man can indeed understand it without the key of a Fellow Craft.

Asiatics, Grecians, and Romans, in erecting of Lodges, and encouraging of Masons, being taught not only from the faithful traditions and valuable remains of the Britons, but even by foreign Princes, in whose dominions the Royal Art had been preserved much from Gothic ruins, particularly by CHARLES MARTELL, King of France, who, according to the old records of Masons, sent over several expert craftsmen and learned architects into England, at the desire of the Saxon kings ; so that during the heptarchy, the Gothic architecture was as much encouraged here as in other Christian lands.

And though the many invasions of the Danes occasioned the loss of many records, yet in times of truce or peace they did not hinder much the good work, though not performed according to the Angustan style ; nay, the vast expence laid out upon it, with the curious inventions of the artists to supply the Roman skill, doing the best they could, demonstrate their esteem and love for the Royal Art, and have rendered Gothic buildings venerable, though not imitable by those that relish the ancient architecture.

And after the Saxons and Danes were conquered by the Normans, as soon as the wars ended and peace was proclaimed, the Gothic Masonry was encouraged, even in the reign of the Conqueror,* and of his son King WILLIAM RUFUS, who built Westminster Hall, the largest one room perhaps in the earth.

Nor did the Barons' wars, nor the many bloody wars of the subsequent Norman Kings, and their contending branches, much hinder the most sumptuous and lofty buildings of those times, raised by the great clergy, (who, enjoying large revenues, could well bear the expence,) and even by the Crown too ; for we read King Edward III. had an officer called the King's Free Mason, or General Surveyor of his buildings, whose name was HENRY YEVELE, employed by that king to build several abbeys, and St. Stephen's Chappel at Westminster, where the House of Commons now sit in Parliament.

But for the further instruction of candidates and younger brethren, a certain record of Freemasons, written in the reign of King EDWARD IV. of the Norman line, gives the following account, viz :

That though the ancient records of the brotherhood in England were many of them destroyed or lost in the wars with the Saxons and Danes, yet King ATHELSTAN, (the grandson of King ALFREDE the Great, a mighty architect) the first annointed King of England, and who translated the Holy Bible into the Saxon tongue, when he had brought the land into rest and peace, built many great works, and encouraged many Masons from France, who were appointed overseers thereof, and

* WILLIAM the Conqueror built the Tower of London, and many strong castles in the country, with several religious edifices, whose example was followed by the nobility and clergy, particularly by ROGER DE MONTGOMERY, Earl of Arundel, the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of Durham, and GUNDULPH, Bishop of Rochester, a mighty architect.

brought with them the charges and regulations of the Lodges, preserved since the Roman times, who also prevailed with the king to improve the Constitution of the English Lodges according to the foreign model, and to increase the wages of working Masons.

That the said King's youngest son, Prince EDWIN, being taught Masonry, and taking upon him the charges of a Master Mason, for the love he had to the said craft, and the honourable principles whereon it is grounded, purchased a free charter of King ATHELESTAN, his father, for the Masons having a correction among themselves, (as it was anciently expressed) or a freedom and power to regulate themselves, to amend what might happen amiss, and to hold a yearly communication and General Assembly.

That accordingly Prince EDWIN summoned all the Masons in the realm to meet him in a congregation at York, who came and composed a General Lodge, of which he was Grand Master ; and having brought with them all the writings and records extant, some in Greek, some in Latin, some in French, and other languages, from the contents thereof that Assembly did frame the Constitution and Charges of an English Lodge, made a law to preserve and observe the same in all time coming, and ordained good pay for working Masons, &c.

That in the process of time, when Lodges were more frequent, the right worshipful the Master and Fellows, with consent of the Lords of the realm, (for most great men were then Masons) ordained that for the future, at the making or admission of a brother, the Constitution should be read, and the Charges hereunto annexed, by the Master or Warden ; and that such as were to be admitted Master Masons, or Masters of Work, should be examined whether they be able of cunning to serve their respective Lords, as well the lowest as the highest, to the honour and worship of the aforesaid art, and to the profit of their Lords ; for they be their Lords that employ and pay them for their service and travel.

And besides many other things, the said record adds, that those Charges and laws of Freemasons have been seen and perused by our late Sovereign King HENRY VI. and by the Lords of his honourable Council who have allowed them, and said that they be right good and reasonable to be holden, as they have been drawn out and collected from the records of ancient times.*

* In another manuscript more ancient, we read : " That when the Master and Wardens meet in a Lodge, if need be, the Sheriff of the county, or the Mayor of the city, " or Alderman of the town, in which the congregation is held, should be made Fellow " and Sociate to the Master, in help of him against rebels, and for upbearing the rights " of the realm.

" That Enter'd Prentices at their making were charg'd not to be thieves, or thieves " maintainers ; that they should travel honestly for their pay, and love their Fellows " as themselves, and be true to the King of England, and to the realm, and to the " Lodge.

Now, though in the third year of the said King HENRY VI., while an infant of about four years old, the Parliament made an act that affected only the working Masons, who had, contrary to the statutes for labourers, confederated not to work but at their own price and wages ; and because such agreements were supposed to be made at the General Lodges, called in the act Chapters and Congregations of Masons, it was then thought expedient to level the said act against the said congregations ;* yet when the said King HENRY VI. arrived to man's estate, the Masons laid before him and his Lords the above-mentioned Records and Charges, who, 'tis plain, reviewed them, and solemnly approved of them as good and reasonable to be holden : Nay, the said King and his Lords must have been incorporated with the Freemasons before they could make such review of the Records ; and in this reign, before King HENRY's troubles, Masons were much encouraged. Nor is there any instance of executing that act in that or in any other reign since, and the Masons never neglected their Lodges for it, nor ever thought it worth while to employ their noble and eminent brethren to have it repealed ; because the working Masons that are free of the Lodge scorn to be guilty of such combinations ; and the other free Masons have no concern in trespasses against the statutes for labourers.†

"That at such congregations it shall be enquir'd whether any Master or Fellow has broke any of the articles agreed to. And if the offender, being duly cited to appear, prove rebel, and will not attend, then the Lodge shall determine against him that he shall forswear (or renounce) his Masonry, and shall no more use this craft ; the which, if he presume for to do, the Sheriff of the county shall prison him, and take all his goods into the King's hands, till his grace be granted him and issued : For this cause principally have these congregations been ordain'd, that as well the lowest as the highest should be well and truly served in this art foresaid throughout all the kingdom of England.

"Amen, so mote it be."

* Tertio HENRICI SEXTI, cap. I. An. Dom. 1425.

Title—Masons shall not confederate themselves in chapters and congregations.

"Whereas, by yearly congregations and confederacies, made by the Masons in their General Assemblies, the good course and effect of the statutes for labourers be openly violated and broken, in subversion of the law, and to the great damage of all the Commons, our said Sovereign Lord the King, willing in this case to provide a remedy, by the advice and assent aforesaid, and at the special request of the Commons, hath ordained and established that such chapters and congregations shall not be hereafter holden ; and if any such be made, they that cause such chapters and congregations to be assembled and holden, if they thereof be convicted, shall be judged for felons, and that the other Masons that come to such chapters and congregations be punished by imprisonment of their bodies, and make fine and ransom at the King's will."—Co. Inst. 3 p. 99.

† That act was made in ignorant times, when true learning was a crime, and Geometry was condemn'd for conjuration ; but it cannot derogate from the honour of the ancient fraternity, who to be sure would never encourage any such confederacy of their working brethren. But by tradition it is believ'd that the Parliament men were then too much influenced by the illiterate clergy, who were not accepted Masons, nor

The Kings of Scotland very much encouraged the Royal Art, from the earliest times down to the union of the crowns, as appears by the remains of glorious buildings in that ancient kingdom, and by the Lodges there kept up without interruption many hundred years, the records and traditions of which testify the great respect of those kings to this honourable fraternity, who gave always pregnant evidence of their love and loyalty, from whence sprung the old toast among Scots Masons, viz : God bless the King and the Craft !

Nor was the royal example neglected by the nobility, gentry, and clergy of Scotland, who joined in everything for the good of the craft and brotherhood, the kings being often the Grand Masters, until, among other things, the Masons of Scotland were impowered to have a certain and fixed Grand Master and Grand Warden, who had a salary from the Crown, and also an acknowledgment from every new brother in the kingdom at entrance, whose business was not only to regulate what might happen amiss in the brotherhood, but also to hear and finally determine all controversies between Mason and Lord, to punish the Mason, if he deserved it, and to oblige both to equitable terms ; at which hearings, if the Grand Master was absent, (who was always nobly born) the Grand Warden presided. This privilege remained till the civil wars, but is now obsolete ; nor can it be well revived until the King becomes a Mason, because it was not actually exerted at the union of the kingdoms.

Yet the great care that the Scots took of true Masonry proved afterwards very useful to England, for the learned and magnanimous Queen ELIZABETH, who encouraged other arts, discouraged this ; because, being a woman, she could not be made a Mason, though, as other great women, she might have much employed Masons, like SEMIRAMIS and ARTEMISIA.*

But upon her demise, King JAMES VI. of Scotland, succeeding to the understood architecture, (as the clergy of some former ages) and generally thought unworthy of this brotherhood ; yet thinking they had an indefeasible right to know all secrets, by virtue of auricular confession, and the Masons never confessing anything thereof, the said clergy were highly offended, and at first suspecting them of wickedness, represented them as dangerous to the State during that minority, and soon influenc'd the Parliament men to lay hold of such supposed agreements of the working Masons, for making an act that might seem to reflect dishonour upon even the whole worshipful fraternity, in whose favour several acts had been both before and after that period made.

* ELIZABETH, being jealous of any assemblies of her subjects, whose business she was not duly appriz'd of, attempted to break up the annual communication of Masons, as dangerous to her government ; but as old Masons have transmitted it by tradition, when the noble persons her Majesty had commissioned, and brought a sufficient power with them at York on St. JOHN'S Day, were once admitted into the Lodge, they made no use of arms, and returned to the Queen a most honourable account of the ancient fraternity, whereby her political fears and doubts were dispell'd, and she let them alone, as a people much respected by the noble and the wise of all the polite nations, but neglected the art all her reign.

crown of England, being a Mason King, revived the English Lodges ; and as he was the first King of Great Britain, he was also the first Prince in the world that recovered the Roman architecture from the ruins of Gothic ignorance ; for, after many dark or illiterate ages, as soon as all parts of learning revived, and Geometry recovered its ground, the polite nations began to discover the confusion and impropriety of the Gothick buildings ; and in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the Augustan style was raised from its rubbish in Italy by BRAMANTE, BARBARO, SANSOVINO, SANGALLO, MICHAEL ANGELO, RAPHAEL URBIN, JULIO ROMANO, SERGLIO, LABACO, SCAMOZI, VIGNOLA, and many other bright architects ; but above all, by the great PALLADIO, who has not yet been duly imitated in Italy, though justly rivalled in England by our great Master Mason, INIGO JONES.

But though all true Masons honour the memories of those Italian architects, it must be owned that the Augustan stile was not revived by any crowned head before King JAMES the Sixth of Scotland and First of England, patronized the said glorious INIGO JONES, whom he employed to build his Royal Palace of Whitehall ; and in his reign over all Great Britain, the Banqueting-house, as the first piece of it, was only raised, which is the finest one room upon earth ; and the ingenious Mr. NICHOLAS STONE performed as Master Mason under the architect JONES.

Upon his demise, his son King CHARLES I., being also a Mason, patronized Mr. JONES too, and firmly intended to have carried on his royal father's design of Whitehall, according to Mr. JONES' style ; but was unhappily diverted by the civil wars.* After the wars were over, and the royal family restored, true Masonry was likewise restored, especially upon the unhappy occasion of the burning of London, Anno 1666 ; for then the city houses were rebuilt more after the Roman style, when King CHARLES II. founded the present St. Paul's Cathedral in London (the old Gothick fabrick being burnt down), much after the style of St. Peter's at Rome, conducted by the ingenious architect, Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN. That King founded also his royal Palace at

* The plan and prospect of that glorious design being still preserv'd, it is esteem'd by skilful architects to excel that of any other palace in the known earth, for the symmetry, firmness, beauty and conveniency of architecture, as indeed all Master JONES's designs and erections are originals, and at first view discover him to be the architect : Nay, his mighty genius prevail'd with the nobility and gentry of all Britain (for he was as much honor'd in Scotland as in England), to affect and revive the ancient stile of Masonry, too long neglected, as appears by the many curious fabricks of those times, one of which shall be now mention'd, the least, and perhaps one of the finest, the famous Gate of the Physic Garden at Oxford, rais'd by HENRY DANVERS, Earl of Danby, which cost his Lordship many hundred pounds, and is as curious a little piece of Masonry as ever was built there before or since, with the following inscription on the front of it, viz.:

GLORIÆ DEI OPTIMI MAXIMI, HONORI CAROLI REGIS,
IN USUM ACADEMIÆ ET REIPUBLICÆ, ANNO 1632.
HENRICUS COMES DANBY.

Greenwich, according to Mr. INIGO JONES's design (which he drew before he died), conducted by his son-in-law, Mr. WEB; it is now turned into an hospital for seamen. He founded also Chelsea College, an hospital for soldiers; and at Edinburgh he both founded and finished his royal Palace of Holyrood House, by the design and conduct of Sir WILLIAM BRUCE, Bart., the Master of the Royal Works in Scotland;* so that, besides the traditions of old Masons now alive, which may be relied on, we have much reason to believe that King CHARLES II. was an accepted Freemason, as every one allows he was a great encourager of the craftsmen.

But in the reign of his brother King JAMES II., though some Roman buildings were carried on, the Lodges of Freemasons in London much dwindled into ignorance, by not being duly frequented and cultivated. But† after the revolution, Anno 1688, King WILLIAM, though a warlike Prince, having a good taste of architecture, carried on the aforesaid two famous hospitals of Greenwich and Chelsea, built the

* It was an ancient Royal Palace, and rebuilt after the Augustan style, so neat that by competent judges it has been esteem'd the finest house belonging to the Crown; and though it is not very large, it is both magnificent and convenient, both inside and outside, with good gardens, and a very large park, and all other adjacent accommodations.

† But by the royal example of his brother, King CHARLES II., the city of London erected the famous Monument, where the great fire began, all of solid stone, 202 foot high from the ground, a pillar of the Dorick order, 15 foot diameter, with a curious stair-case in the middle of black marble, and an iron balcony on the top (not unlike those of TRAJAN and ANTONINUS at Rome), from whence the city and suburbs may be view'd, and it is the highest column we know upon earth. Its pedestal is 21 foot square and forty foot high, the front of which is adorn'd with most ingenious emblems in basso relievo, wrought by that famous sculptor, Mr. GABRIEL CIBBER, with large Latin inscriptions on the side of it, founded Anno 1671, and finish'd Anno 1677.

In his time also the Society of Merchant Adventurers rebuilt the Royal Exchange of London (the old one being destroy'd by the fire), all of stone, after the Roman style, the finest structure of that use in Europe, with the King's statue to the life, of white marble, in the middle of the square (wrought by the famous Master Carver and Statuary, Mr. GRINLIN GIBBONS, who was justly admir'd all over Europe, for his rivalling, if not surpassing the most fam'd Italian Masters), on the pedestal of which is the following inscriptions, viz.:

CAROLO II. CÆSARI BRITANNICO
PATRIÆ PATRI
REGUM OPTIMO CLEMENTISSIMO
AUGUSTISSIMO
GENERIS HUMANI DELICIIJS
UTRUSQUE FORTUNÆ VICTORI
PACIS EUROPÆ ARBITRO
MARIUM DOMINO AC VINDICI
SOCIETAS MERCATORUM ADVENTUR.
ANGLE
QUÆ PER CCCC JAM PROPE ANNOS
REGIA BENIGNITATE FLORET
FIDEI INTÉMERATÆ ET GRATITUDINIS
ÆTERNÆ
HOC TESTIMONIUM
VENERABUNDA POSUIT
ANNO SALUTIS HUMANÆ MDCLXXXIV.

TO CHARLES II. EMPEROR OF BRITAIN
FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY
BEST MOST MERCIFUL AND
AUGUST OF KINGS
DELIGHT OF MANKIND
IN ADVERSITY AND PROSPERITY UNMOV'D
UMPIRE OF EUROPE'S PEACE
COMMANDER AND SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS
THE SOCIETY OF MERCHANT ADVENTURERS OF
ENGLAND.
WHICH FOR NEAR CCCC YEARS
BY ROYAL FAVOUR FLOURISHETH
OF UNSHAKEN LOYALTY AND ETERNAL
GRATITUDE
THIS TESTIMONY
HAS IN VENERATION ERECTED
ANNO SALUTIS HUMANÆ MDCLXXXIV.

fine part of his royal Palace of Hampton Court, and founded and finished his incomparable palace at Loo, in Holland, &c. And the bright example of that glorious Prince (who by most is reckoned a Freemason) did influence the nobility, the gentry, the wealthy, and the learned of Great Britain, to affect much the Augustan style, as appears by a vast number of most curious edifices erected since throughout the kingdom; for, when in the ninth year of the reign of our late Sovereign, Queen ANNE, her Majesty and the Parliament concurred in an act for erecting 50 new Parish churches in London, Westminster, and suburbs; and the Queen had granted a commission to several of the Ministers of State, the principal nobility, great gentry, and eminent citizens, the two Archbishops, with several other Bishops and dignified clergymen, to put the act in execution; they ordered the said new churches to be raised according to the ancient Roman style, as appears by those that are already raised; and the present Honorable Commissioners having the same good judgment of architecture, are carrying on the same laudable grand design, and are reviving the ancient style, by the order, countenance, and encouragement of his present Majesty King GEORGE, who was also graciously pleased to lay the first stone in the foundation of his parish church of St. Martin's in Campis, on the south-east corner (by his Majesty's proxy for the time, the present Bishop of Salisbury), which is now rebuilding, strong, large, and beautiful, at the cost of the parishioners.*

In short, it would require many large volumes to contain the many splendid instances of the mighty influence of Masonry from the creation, in every age and in every nation, as could be collected from historians and travellers; but especially in those parts of the world where the Europeans correspond and trade, such remains of ancient, large, curious and magnificent colonading, have been discovered by the inquisitive, that they can't enough lament the general devastations of

Nor should we forget the famous Theatre of Oxford, built by Archbishop SHELTON, at his sole cost, in that King's time, which, among his other fine works, was design'd and conducted also by Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN, the King's architect; for it is justly admir'd by the curious; and the Museum adjoining to it, a fine building rais'd at the charge of that illustrious University, where there have been since erected several more Roman buildings, as Trinity-College Chappel, Allhallows Church in High-street, Peck-water-square, in Christ-Church College, the new Printing-house, and the whole of Queen's College rebuilt, &c., by the liberal donations of some eminent benefactors, and by the publick spirit, vigilancy, and fidelity of the heads of Colleges, who generally had a true taste of Roman architecture.

The learned University of Cambridge not having had the management of such liberal donations, have not so many fine structures; but they have two of the most curious and excellent in Great Britain of their kind, the one a Gothic building, King's-College Chappel (unless you except King HENRY VII.'s Chappel in Westminster-Abbey); and the other a Roman building, Trinity-College Library.

* The Bishop of SALISBURY went in an orderly procession, duly attended, and having levell'd the first stone, gave it two or three knocks with a mallet, upon which the trumpets sounded, and a vast multitude made loud acclamations of joy; when his

the Goths and Mahometans ; and must conclude that no art was ever so much encouraged as this, as indeed none other is so extensively useful to mankind.*

Lordship laid upon the stone a purse of 100 guineas, as a present from his Majesty for the use of the craftsmen. The following inscription was cut in the foundation stone, and a sheet of lead put upon it, viz.:

D. S.	SACRED TO GOD
SERENISSIMUS REX GEORGIUS	HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY KING GEORGE
PER DEPUTATUM SUUM	BY HIS PROXY
REVERENDUM ADMODUM IN CHRISTO PATREM	THE RIGHT REVEREND FATHER IN CHRIST,
RICHARDUM EPISCOPUM SALISBURIENSEM	RICHARD LORD BISHOP OF SALISBURY
SUMMUM SUUM ELEMOSYNARIUM	HIS MAJESTY'S CHIEF ALMONER
ADISTENTE (REGIS JUSSU)	ASSISTED (AT HIS MAJESTY'S COMMAND)
DOMINO THO. HEWET EQU. AUR.	BY SIR THOMAS HEWET KNIGHT
ÆDIFICIORUM REGIORUM CURATORE	OF HIS MAJESTY'S ROYAL BUILDINGS
PRINCIPALI	PRINCIPAL SURVEYOR
PRIMUM HUIUS ECCLESIE LAPIDEM	THE FIRST STONE OF THIS CHURCH
POSUIT	LAI'D
MARTII, 19o ANNO DOM. 1721.	THIS 19TH OF MARCH ANNO DOMINI 1721
ANNOQUE REGNI SUI OCTAVO.	AND THE EIGHTH YEAR OF HIS REIGN.

* It were endless to recount and describe the many curious Roman buildings in Great-Britain alone, erected since the revival of Roman Masonry; of which a few may be here mentioned, besides those already spoken of, viz.:

The Queen's House at Greenwich,	Belonging to the CROWN.
The Great Gallery in Somerset-Gardens,	The CROWN.
Gunnersbury-House near Brentford, Middlesex,	{ Possess'd by the Duke of
Lindsay-House, in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields,	QUEENSBURY.
York-Stairs at the Thames in York-Buildings.	Duke of ANCASTER.
St. Paul's-Church in Covent-Garden, with its glorious Portico.	
The Building and Piazza of Covent-Garden,	Duke of BEDFORD.
Wilton-Castle in Wiltshire,	Earl of PEMBROKE.
Castle-Ashby in Northamptonshire,	Earl of STRAFFORD.
Stoke-Park in ditto,	ARUNDEL, Esq;
Wing-House in Bedfordshire,	HON. WM. STANHOPE, Esq;
Chavening-House in Kent,	Earl STANHOPE.
Ambrose-Bury in Wiltshire,	LORD CARLETON.
All designed by the incomparable INIGO JONES, and most of them conducted by him, or by his son-in-law Mr. WEBB, according to Mr. JONES's designa.	
Besides many more conducted by other architects, influenc'd by the same happy genius; such as,	
Bow-Church Steeple in Cheapside,	Built by Sir CHRL. WREN.
Hotham-House in Beverly, Yorkshire,	Sir CHARLES HOTHAM Bart.
Melvin-House in Fife,	Earl of LEVIN.
Longleat-House in Wiltshire,	Viscount WEYMOUTH.
Chesterlee-street-House in Durham County,	JOHN HEDWORTH Esq;
Montague-House in Bloomsbury, London,	Duke of MONTAGU.
Drumlanrig-Castle in Northdaleshire,	Duke of QUEENSBURY.
Castle-Howard in Yorkshire,	Earl of CARLISLE.
Stainborough-House in ditto,	Earl of STRAFFORD.
Hopton-Castle in Linlithgowshire,	Earl of HOPTON.
Blenheim-Castle at Woodstock, Oxfordshire,	Duke of MARLBOROUGH.
Chatsworth-Castle in Derbyshire,	Duke of DEVONSHIRE.
Palace of Hammliton in Clydsdaleshire,	Duke of HAMILTON.
Wanstead-House in Epping-Forest, Essex,	LORD CASTLEMALIN.
Duncomb-Park in Yorkshire,	THOMAS DUNCOMB, Esq;
Mereworth-Castle in Kent,	HON. JOHN FANE Esq;
Sterling-House near Sterling-Castle,	Duke of ARGYLE.
Kinross-House in Kinrosshire,	Sir WILLIAM BRUCE Bart.
Stourton-Castle in Wiltshire,	HENRY HOAR Esq;
Willbury-House in ditto,	WILLIAM BENSON Esq;
Bute-Castle in Isle of Bute,	Earl of BUTE.

Nay, if it were expedient, it could be made appear, that from this ancient fraternity, the Societies or Orders of the warlike knights, and of the religious too, in process of time did borrow many solemn usages; for none of them were better instituted, more decently installed, or did more sacredly observe their laws and Charges, than the Accepted Masons have done, who, in all ages and in every nation, have maintained and propagated their concerns in a way peculiar to themselves, which the most cunning and the most learned cannot penetrate into, though it has been often attempted, while they know and love one another, even without the help of speech, or when of different languages.

And now the free-born British nations, disentangled from foreign and civil wars, and enjoying the good fruits of peace and liberty, having of late much indulged their happy genius for Masonry of every sort, and revived the drooping Lodges of London, this fair metropolis flourisheth, as well as other parts, with several worthy particular Lodges, that have a quarterly communication and an annual Grand Assembly, wherein the forms and usages of the most ancient and worshipful fraternity are wisely propagated, and the Royal Art duly cultivated, and the cement of the brotherhood preserved; so that the whole body resembles a well built arch, several noblemen and gentlemen of the best rank, with clergymen and learned scholars of most professions and denominations, having frankly joined and submitted to take the Charges, and to wear the badges of a Free and Accepted Mason, under our present worthy Grand Master, the Most Noble Prince JOHN, Duke of Montague.

Walpole-House near Lin Regis, Norfolk, . . .	HON. ROB. WALPOLE Esq;
Burlington-House in Pickadilly, St. James's, Westminster, . . .	{ Earl of BURLINGTON.
Dormitory of King's-School, Westminster, . . .	The CROWN.
Tottenham-Park in Wiltshire, . . .	Lord BRUCE.

These three last are design'd and conducted by the Earl of BURLINGTON, who bids fair to be the best architect of Britain, (if he is not so already) and we hear his Lordship intends to publish the valuable remains of Mr. INIGO JONES, for the improvement of other architects.

Besides more of the same Roman style, and yet many more in imitation of it, which though they cannot be reduc'd to any certain style, are stately, beautiful, and convenient structures, notwithstanding the mistakes of their several architects: and besides the sumptuous and venerable Gothic buildings, past reckoning, as cathedrals, parish-churches, chappels, bridges, old palaces of the Kings, of the Nobility, of the Bishops, and the gentry, known well to travellers, and to such as peruse the histories of countries, and the ancient monuments of great families, &c., as many erections of the Roman style may be review'd in Mr. CAMPBELL the architect's ingenious book, call'd *Vitruvius Britannicus*: and if the disposition for true ancient Masonry prevails, for some time, with noblemen, gentlemen, and learned men, (as it is likely it will) this Island will become the Mistress of the Earth, for designing, drawing, and conducting, and capable to instruct all other Nations in all things relating to the Royal Art.

THE CHARGES OF A FREE-MASON

EXTRACTED FROM

THE ANCIENT RECORDS OF LODGES BEYOND SEA,

AND OF THOSE IN

ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND,

FOR THE USE OF THE LODGES IN LONDON.

To be read at the making of New Brethren, or when the Master shall order it.

THE GENERAL HEADS, viz. :—I.

I OF GOD AND RELIGION.

II. Of the CIVIL MAGISTRATE, Supreme and Subordinate.

III. Of LODGES.

IV. Of MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS, and APPRENTICES.

V. Of the Management of the CRAFT in working.

VI. Of BEHAVIOUR, viz.

1. In the Lodge while CONSTITUTED.
2. After the Lodge is over and the BRETHREN not gone.
3. When Brethren meet without STRANGERS, but not in a LODGE.
4. In presence of STRANGERS not MASONS.
5. At HOME and in the NEIGHBOURHOOD.
6. Towards a STRANGE BROTHER.

I.—CONCERNING GOD AND RELIGION.

A Mason is oblig'd, by his Tenure, to obey the Moral Law ; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid ATHEIST, nor an irreligious LIBERTINE. But though in ancient Times Masons were charg'd in every Country to be of the Religion of that Country or Nation, whatever it was, 'tis now thought more expedient to oblige them to that Religion in which all Men agree, leaving their particular Opinions to themselves ; that is, to be *good men and true*, or Men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Denominations or Persuasions they may be distinguished ; whereby Masonry becomes the *Center of Union*, and the Means of conciliating true Friendship among persons that must have remain'd at a perpetual Distance.

II.—OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATE, SUPREME AND SUBORDINATE.

A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concern'd in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates ; for as Masonry hath been alwais injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so Ancient Kings and Princes have been much dispos'd to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and Loyalty, whereby they practically answer'd the Cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the honor of the Fraternity, who ever flourish'd in Times of Peace. So that if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State, he is not countenanc'd in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as an unhappy Man ; and, if convicted of no other Crime, though the loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his relation to it remains indefeasible.

III.—OF LODGES.

A Lodge is a Place where Masons assemble and work : Hence that Assembly, or duly organiz'd Society of Masons is called a *Lodge*, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its By-laws and the General Regulations. It is either Particular or General, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the Regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annex'd. In ancient Times, no Master or Fellow could be absent from it, especially when warn'd to appear at it, without incurring a severe Censure, until it appear'd to the Master and Wardens, that pure Necessity hinder'd him.

The Persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true Men, free-born, and of mature and discreet Age, no Bondmen, no Women, no immoral or scandalous Men, but of good Report.

IV.—OF MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS AND APPRENTICES.

All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real Worth and personal Merit only ; that so the Lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despis'd : Therefore no Master or Warden is chosen by Seniority, but for his Merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every Brother must attend in his Place, and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity : Only Candidates may know, that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient Employment for him, and unless he be a perfect Youth, having no Maim or Defect in his Body, that may render him incapable of learning the Art of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a *Brother*, and then a *Fellow-Craft* in due time, even after he has served such a Term of Years as the Custom of the Country directs ; and that he should be descended of honest Parents ; that so,

when otherwise qualify'd, he may arrive to the Honour of being the *Warden*, and then the *Master* of the Lodge, the *Grand Warden*, and at length the *Grand Master* of all the Lodges, according to his Merit.

No Brother can be a Warden until he has pass'd the part of a Fellow-Craft ; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden, nor Grand-Warden until he has been the Master of a Lodge, nor GRAND MASTER unless he has been a Fellow-Craft before his Election, who is also to be nobly born, or a Gentleman of the best Fashion, or some eminent Scholar, or some curious Architect, or other Artist, descended of honest Parents, and who is of singular great Merit in the Opinion of the Lodges. And for the better, and easier, and more honourable Discharge of his Office, the Grand Master has a Power to chuse his own Deputy Grand Master, who must be then, or must have been formerly, the Master of a particular Lodge, and has the Privilege of acting whatever the Grand-Master, his Principal, should act, unless the said Principal be present, or interpose his Authority by Letter.

These Rulers and Governors, Supreme and Subordinate, of the ancient Lodge, are to be obey'd in their respective Stations by all the Brethren, according to the old Charges and Regulations, with all Humility, Reverence, Love, and Alacrity.

V.—OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CRAFT IN WORKING.

All Masons shall work honestly on working Days, that they may live creditably on Holy Days ; and the time appointed by the Law of the Land, or confirm'd by Custom shall be observ'd.

The most expert of the Fellow-Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master, or Overseer of the Lord's work ; who is to be call'd *Master* by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill Language, and to call each other by no disobliging Name, but Brother or Fellow ; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master knowing himself to be able of Cunning, shall undertake the Lord's Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own ; nor give more Wages to any Brother or Apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons receiving their Wages justly, shall be faithful to the Lord, and honestly finish their Work, whether Task or Journey ; nor put the Work to Task that hath been accusom'd to Journey.

None shall discover Envy at the Prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him, or put him out of his Work, if he be capable to finish the same ; for no man can finish another's Work so much to the Lord's profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the Designs and Draughts of him that began it.

When a Fellow-Craftsman is chosen Warden of the Work under the

Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the Work in the Master's Absence to the Lord's Profit; and his Brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employ'd shall meekly receive their Wages without Murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master till the Work is finish'd.

A Younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the Materials for want of Judgment, and for encreasing and continuing of Brotherly Love.

All the Tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No Labourer shall be employ'd in the proper Work of Masonry; nor shall FREE MASONS work with those that are not free, without an urgent Necessity; nor shall they teach Labourers and unaccepted Masons, as they should teach a Brother or Fellow.

VI.—OF BEHAVIOUR, VIZ.

1.—*In the Lodge while Constituted.*

You are not to hold private Committees, or separate Conversation, without Leave from the Master, nor to talk of any thing impertinent or unseemly, nor to interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Master: Nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming Language upon any Pretence whatsoever; but to pay due Reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship.

If any Complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the Award and Determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent Judges of all such Controversies, (unless you carry it by Appeal to the Grand Lodge) and to whom they ought to be referr'd, unless a Lord's Work be hinder'd the mean while, in which Case a particular Reference may be made; but you must never go to Law about what concerneth *Masonry*, without an absolute Necessity apparent to the Lodge.

2.—*Behaviour after the Lodge is Over and the Brethren not Gone.*

You may enjoy yourselves with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability, but avoiding all Excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his Inclination, or hindering him from going when his Occasions call him, or doing or saying any thing offensive, or that may forbid an *easy* and *free* Conversation for that would blast our Harmony, and defeat our laudable Purposes. Therefore no private Piques or Quarrels must be brought within the Door of the Lodge, far less any Quarrels about Religion, or Nations, or State Policy, we be-

ing only, as Masons, of the Catholick Religion above-mention'd ; we are also of all Nations, Tongues, Kindreds, and Languages, and are resolv'd against *all Politicks*, as what never yet conduc'd to the Welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will. This *Charge* has been always strictly enjoin'd and observ'd ; but especially ever since the Reformation in Britain, or the Dissent and Secession of these Nations from the Communion of Rome.

3.—*Behaviour when Brethren meet without Strangers, but not in a Lodge Formed.*

You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other *Brother*, freely giving mutual Instruction as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that Respect which is due to any Brother, were he not a Mason : For though all Masons are as Brethren upon the same Level, yet Masonry takes no Honour from a Man that he had before ; nay, rather it adds to his Honour, especially if he has deserv'd well of the Brotherhood, who must give Honour to whom it is due, and avoid ill Manners.

4.—*Behaviour in presence of Strangers not Masons.*

You shall be cautious in your Words and Carriage, that the most penetrating Stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated ; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the Honour of the Worshipful Fraternity.

5.—*Behaviour at Home and in your Neighbourhood.*

You are to act as becomes a moral and wise Man ; particularly, not to let your Family, Friends, and Neighbours know the Concerns of the Lodge, &c., but wisely to consult your own Honour, and that of the Ancient Brotherhood, for Reasons not to be mention'd here. You must also consult your Health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home, after Lodge Hours are past ; and by avoiding of Gluttony or Drunkenness, that your Families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

6.—*Behaviour towards a Strange Brother.*

You are cautiously to examine him, in such a Method as Prudence shall direct you, that you may not be impos'd upon by an ignorant false Pretender, whom you are to reject with Contempt and Derision, and beware of giving him any Hints of Knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine Brother, you are to respect him accordingly ; and if he is in want, you must relieve him

if you can, or else direct him how he may be reliev'd: You must employ him some Days, or else recommend him to be employ'd. But you are not charged to do beyond your Ability, only to prefer a poor Brother, that is a Good Man and True, before any other poor People in the same Circumstances.

Finally, All these CHARGES you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in Another way; cultivating Brotherly-Love, the Foundation and Cape-stone, the Cement and Glory of this ancient Fraternity, avoiding all Wrangling and Quarrelling, all Slander and Backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother, but defending his Character, and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your Honor and Safety, and no farther. And if any of them do you Injury, you must apply to your own or his Lodge; and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication, and from thence to the Annual Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable Conduct of our Fore-fathers in every Nation; never taking a Legal Course, but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly Advice of Master and Fellows, when they would prevent you going to Law with Strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all Law-suits, that so you may mind the Affair of Masonry with the more Alacrity and Success; but with respect to Brothers or Fellows at Law, the Master and Brethren should kindly offer their Mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending Brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must however carry on their Process, or Law-Suit, without Wrath and Rancor, (not in the common way) saying or doing nothing which may hinder Brotherly Love, and good Offices to be renew'd and continu'd; that all may see the Benign Influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the Beginning of the World, and will do to the End of Time.

AMEN, SO MOTE IT BE.

POSTSCRIPT.

A Worthy Brother, learned in the Law, has communicated to the Author (while this Sheet was printing) the Opinion of the Great Judge Coke upon the Act against Masons, 3 Hen. VI. Cap. I., which is printed in this Book, page 35, and which quotation the Author has compar'd with the Original, viz.

C O K E'S *Institutes*, THIRD PART, FOL. 99.

The Cause wherefore this Offense was made Felony, is for that the *good Course and Effect of the Statutes of Labourers were thereby violated*

and broken. Now (says my Lord Coke) all the Statutes concerning Labourers, before this Act, and whereunto this Act doth refer, are repealed by the Statute of 5 Eliz. Cap. 4. whereby the *Cause and End* of making this Act is taken away ; and consequently this Act is become of no Force or Effect ; for, *cessante ratione Legis, cessat ipsa Lex* : and the Indictment of Felony upon this Statute must contain, that *those Chapters and Congregations were to the violating and breaking of the good Course and Effect of the Statutes of Labourers*, which now cannot be so alleg'd, because these Statutes be repealed. Therefore this would be put out of the *Charge of Justices of Peace*, written by Master Lambert, page 227.

This Quotation confirms the Tradition of old Masons, that this most learned Judge really belong'd to the ancient Lodge, and was a faithful Brother.

General Regulations,

Compiled first by Mr. GEORGE PAYNE, *Anno* 1720, when he was ~~Grand-Master~~, and approv'd by the GRAND-LODGE, on *St. John Baptist's Day*, *Anno* 1721, at *Stationer's-Hall*, LONDON; when the most noble PRINCE John Duke of MONTAGU was unanimously chosen our ~~Grand-Master~~ for the Year ensuing; who chose JOHN BEAL, M. D., his *Deputy* GRAND-MASTER;

and { Mr. Josiah Villeneau } were chosen by the
{ Mr. Thomas Morris, jun. } Lodge GRAND-WARDENS.

And now, by the Command of our said *Right Worshipful* GRAND-MASTER MONTAGU, the *Author* of this Book has compar'd them with, and reduc'd them to the ancient *Records* and immemorial *Usages* of the Fraternity, and digested them into this new Method, with several proper Explications, for the Use of the Lodges in and about *London* and *Westminster*.

I.

THE GRAND MASTER, or his *Deputy*, hath Authority and Right, not only to be present in any true Lodge, but also to preside wherever he is, with the Master of the Lodge on his Left-hand, and to order his Grand Wardens to attend him, who are not to act in particular Lodges as Wardens, but in his Presence, and at his Command; because there the Grand Master may command the Wardens of that Lodge, or any other Brethren he pleaseth, to attend and act as his Wardens *pro tempore*.

II. The Master of a particular Lodge has the Right and Authority of congregating the Members of his Lodge into a Chapter at pleasure, upon any Emergency or Occurrence, as well as to appoint the time and place of their usual forming; and in case of Sickness, Death, or necessary Absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall act as Master *pro tempore*, if no Brother is present who has been Master of that Lodge before; for in that Case the Absent Master's Authority reverts to the last Master then present; though he cannot act until the said Senior Warden has once congregated the Lodge, or in his Absence the Junior Warden.

III. The Master of each particular Lodge, or one of the Wardens, or some other Brother by his Order, shall keep a Book containing their By-Laws, the Names of their Members, with a List of all the Lodges

in town, and the usual Times and Places of their forming, and all their Transactions that are proper to be written.

IV. No Lodge shall make more than Five New Brethren at one Time, nor any Man under the age of Twenty-five, who must be also his own Master; unless by a Dispensation from the Grand-Master or his Deputy.

V. No Man can be made or admitted a Member of a particular Lodge, without previous notice one Month before given to the said Lodge, in order to make due Enquiry into the Reputation and Capacity of the Candidate; unless by the Dispensation aforesaid.

VI. But no Man can be enter'd a Brother in any particular Lodge, or admitted to be a Member thereof, without the unanimous Consent of all the members of that Lodge then present when the Candidate is propos'd, and their Consent is formally ask'd by the Master; and they are to signify their Consent or Dissent in their own prudent way, either virtually or in form, but with Unanimity: Nor is this inherent Privilege subject to a Dispensation; because the members of a particular Lodge are the best judges of it; and if a fractious member should be imposed on them, it might spoil their Harmony, or hinder their Freedom; or even break or disperse the Lodge; which ought to be avoided by all good and true Brethren.

VII. Every new Brother at his making is decently to cloath the Lodge, that is, all the Brethren present, and to deposite something for the Relief of indigent and decay'd Brethren, as the candidate shall think fit to bestow, over and above the small Allowance stated by the By-Laws of that particular Lodge; which charity shall be lodged with the Master or Wardens, or the Cashier, if the members think fit to chuse one.

And the candidate shall also solemnly promise to submit to the Constitutions, the Charges, and Regulations, and to such other good Usages as shall be intimated to them in Time and Place convenient.

VIII. No Set or Number of Brethren shall withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they were made Brethren, or were afterwards admitted members, unless the Lodge becomes too numerous; nor even then, without a dispensation from the Grand-Master or his Deputy: And when they are thus separated, they must either immediately join themselves to such other Lodge as they shall like best, with the unanimous consent of that other Lodge to which they go, (as above regulated, or else they must obtain the Grand-Master's Warrant to join in forming a new Lodge.

If any set or number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a Lodge without the Grand-Master's Warrant, the regular Lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair Brethren and duly form'd, nor approve of their Acts and Deeds; but must treat them as Rebels, until they humble themselves, as the Grand-Master shall in his

Prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his Warrant, which must be signify'd to the other Lodges, as the custom is when a new Lodge is to be register'd in the List of Lodges.

IX. But if any Brother so far misbehave himself as to render his Lodge uneasy, he shall be twice duly admonish'd by the Master or Wardens in a form'd Lodge ; and if he will not refrain his imprudence, and obediently submit to the Advice of the Brethren, and reform what gives them Offence, he shall be dealt with according to the By-Laws of that particular Lodge, or else in such a manner as the Quarterly Communication shall in their great Prudence think fit ; for which a New Regulation may be afterwards made.

X. The Majority of every particular Lodge, when congregated, shall have the privilege of giving instructions to their Master and Wardens, before the assembling of the Grand Chapter or Lodge, at the three Quarterly Communications hereafter mention'd, and of the Annual Grand Lodge too ; because their Masters and Wardens are their Representatives, and are suppos'd to speak their Mind.

XI. All particular Lodges are to observe the same usages as much as possible ; in order to which, and for cultivating a good Understanding among Free-Masons, some Members out of every Lodge shall be deputed to visit the other Lodges as often as shall be thought convenient.

XII. The GRAND LODGE consists of, and is form'd by the Masters and Wardens of all the regular particular Lodges upon Record, with the Grand Master at their Head, and his Deputy on his Left hand, and the Grand-Wardens in their proper Places, and must have a Quarterly Communication about Michaelmas, Christmas, and Lady-Day, in some convenient Place, as the Grand Master shall appoint, where no Brother shall be present who is not at that time a Member thereof, without a Dispensation ; and while he stays, he shall not be allow'd to vote, nor even give his Opinion, without leave of the Grand Lodge ask'd and given, or unless it be duly ask'd by the said Lodge.

All matters are to be determined in the Grand Lodge by a Majority of Votes, each Member having one Vote, and the Grand-Master having two Votes, unless the said Lodge leave any particular thing to the Determination of the Grand-Master for the sake of Expedition.

XIII. At the said Quarterly Communication, all Matters that concern the Fraternity in general, or particular Lodges, or single Brethren, are quietly, sedately, and maturely to be discours'd of and transacted : Apprentices must be admitted Masters and Fellow-Craft only here, unless by Dispensation. Here also all Differences that cannot be made up and accommodated privately, nor by a particular Lodge, are to be seriously considered and decided : And if any Brother thinks himself aggriev'd by the Decision of this Board, he may appeal to the Annual

Grand-Lodge next ensuing, and leave his Appeal in Writing, with the Grand-Master, or his Deputy, or the Grand-Wardens.

Here also the Master or the Wardens of each particular Lodge shall bring and produce a List of such Members as have been made, or even admitted in their particular Lodges since the last Communication of the Grand-Lodge: And there shall be a Book kept by the Grand-Master, or his Deputy, or rather by some Brother whom the Grand-Lodge shall appoint for Secretary, wherein shall be recorded all the Lodges, with their usual Times and Places of forming, and the Names of all the Members of each Lodge; and all the Affairs of the Grand-Lodge that are proper to be written.

They shall also consider of the most prudent and effectual methods of collecting and disposing of what Money shall be given to, or lodged with them in Charity, towards the relief only of any true Brother fallen into Poverty or Decay, but of none else: But every particular Lodge shall dispose of their own Charity for poor Brethren, according to their own By-Laws, until it be agreed by all the Lodges (in a new Regulation) to carry in the Charity collected by them to the Grand-Lodge, at the Quarterly or Annual Communication, in order to make a common Stock of it, for the more handsome relief of poor Brethren.

They shall also appoint a Treasurer, a Brother of good worldly substance, who shall be a Member of the Grand-Lodge by virtue of his Office, and shall be always present, and have power to move to the Grand-Lodge anything, especially what concerns his Office. To him shall be committed all Moneys rais'd for Charity, or for any other Use of the Grand-Lodge, which he shall write down in a Book, with the respective Ends and Uses for which the several Sums are intended; and shall expend and disburse the same by such a certain Order, sign'd, as the Grand-Lodge shall afterwards agree to in a new Regulation: But he shall not vote in chusing a Grand-Master or Wardens, though in every other transaction. As in like manner the Secretary shall be a Member of the Grand-Lodge by virtue of his Office, and vote in every thing except in chusing a Grand-Master or Wardens.

The Treasurer and Secretary shall have each a Clerk, who must be a Brother and Fellow-Craft, but never must be a Member of the Grand-Lodge, nor speak without being allow'd or desir'd.

The Grand-Master, or his Deputy, shall always command the Treasurer and Secretary, with their Clerks and Books, in order to see how Matters go on, and to know what is expedient to be done upon any emergent Occasion.

Another Brother (who must be a Fellow-Craft) should be appointed to look after the door of the Grand-Lodge; but shall be no Member of it.

But these Offices may be farther explain'd by a new Regulation, when the Necessity and Expediency of them may more appear than at present to the Fraternity.

XIV. If at any Grand-Lodge, stated or occasional, quarterly or annual, the GRAND-MASTER and his Deputy should be both absent, then the present Master of a Lodge, that has been the longest a Free-Mason, shall take the Chair, and preside as Grand-Master *pro tempore*, and shall be vested with all his Power and Honor for the time ; provided there is no Brother present that has been Grand-Master formerly, or Deputy Grand-Master ; for the last Grand-Master present, or else the last Deputy present, should always of right take place in the absence of the present Grand-Master and his Deputy.

XV. In the Grand-Lodge none can act as Wardens but the Grand-Wardens themselves, if present ; and if absent, the Grand-Master, or the Person who presides in his Place, shall order private Wardens to act as Grand-Wardens *pro tempore*, whose Places are to be supply'd by two Fellow-Craft of the same Lodge, call'd forth to act, or sent thither by the particular Master thereof ; or if by him omitted, then they shall be call'd by the Grand-Master, that so the Grand-Lodge may be always compleated.

XVI. The Grand Wardens, or any others, are first to advise with the Deputy about the Affairs of the Lodge or of the Brethren, and not to apply to the Grand-Master without the Knowledge of the Deputy, unless he refuse his concurrence in any certain necessary Affair ; in which Case, or in Case of any Difference between the Deputy and the Grand-Wardens, or other Brethren, both parties are to go by Concert to the Grand-Master, who can easily decide the Controversy and make up the difference, by virtue of his great Authority.

The Grand-Master should receive no Intimation of Business concerning Masonry, but from his Deputy first, except in such certain Cases as his Worship can well judge of ; for if the Application to the Grand-Master be irregular, he can easily order the Grand-Wardens, or any other Brethren thus applying, to wait upon his Deputy, who is to prepare the Business speedily, and to lay it orderly before his Worship.

XVII. No GRAND-MASTER, Deputy Grand-Master, Grand-Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, or whoever acts for them, or in their stead *pro tempore*, can at the same time be the Master or Warden of a particular Lodge ; but as soon as any of them has honorably discharg'd his Grand Office, he returns to that Post or Station in his particular Lodge from which he was call'd to officiate above.

XVIII. If the Deputy Grand-Master be sick, or necessarily absent, the Grand-Master may chuse any Fellow-Craft he pleases to be his Deputy *pro tempore* : But he that is chusen Deputy at the Grand Lodge, and the Grand-Wardens too, cannot be discharg'd without the Cause fairly appear to the Majority of the Grand-Lodge ; and the GRAND-MASTER, if he is uneasy, may call a Grand-Lodge on purpose to lay the cause before them, and to have their Advice and Concurrence : In which case, the Majority of the Grand-Lodge, if they cannot recon-

cile the MASTER and his Deputy or his Wardens, are to concur in allowing the MASTER to discharge his said Deputy or his said Wardens, and to chuse another Deputy immediately ; and the said Grand-Lodge shall chuse other Wardens in that Case, that Harmony and Peace may be preserved.

XIX. If the GRAND-MASTER should abuse his Power, and render himself unworthy of the Obedience and Subjection of the Lodge, he shall be treated in a way and manner to be agreed upon in a new Regulation ; because hitherto the ancient Fraternity have had no occasion for it, their former Grand-Masters having all behaved themselves worthy of that honourable Office.

XX. The Grand-Master, with his Deputy and Wardens, shall (at least once) go round and visit all the Lodges about Town during his Mastership.

XXI. If the GRAND-MASTER die during his Mastership, or by Sickness, or by being beyond the Sea, or any other way should be render'd incapable of discharging his Office, the Deputy, or, in his Absence, the Senior Grand-Warden, or in his Absence, the Junior, or, in his Absence, any three present Masters of Lodges, shall join to congregate the Grand-Lodge immediately, to advise together upon that Emergency, and to send two of their number to invite the *last* Grand-Master to resume his Office, which now in course reverts to him ; or, if he refuse, then the *next last*, and so backward. But if no former Grand-Master can be found, then the *Deputy* shall act as *principal* until another is chusen ; or, if there be no Deputy, then the oldest Master.

XXII. The BRETHREN of all the Lodges in and about London and Westminster shall meet at an *Annual Communication* and *Feast*, in some convenient place, on *St. John Baptist's Day*, or else on *St. John Evangelist's Day*, as the Grand-Lodge shall think fit by a *new Regulation*, having of late Years met on *St. John Baptist's Day* : Provided :

The *Majority* of the Masters and Wardens, with the Grand-Master, his Deputy and Wardens, agree at their Quarterly Communications, three Months before, that there shall be a Feast, and a General Communication of all the Brethren : For if either the Grand-Master, or the Majority of the particular Masters, are against it, it must be dropt for that time.

But whether there shall be a Feast at all for the Brethren, or not, yet the GRAND-LODGE must meet in some convenient place *annually* on *St. John's Day* ; or, if it be Sunday, then 'on the next Day, in order to chuse every Year a *new* Grand-Master, Deputy, and Wardens.

XXIII. If it be thought expedient, and the Grand-Master, with the Majority of the Masters and Wardens, agree to hold a Grand Feast, according to the ancient laudable Custom of Masons, then the GRAND-WARDENS shall have the care of preparing the Tickets, seal'd with the Grand-Master's Seal, of disposing of the Tickets, of receiving the Mon-

ey for the Tickets, of buying the Materials of the Feast, of finding out a proper and convenient place to feast in, and of every other thing that concerns the Entertainment.

But, that the Work be not too burthensome to the two Grand-Wardens, and that all Matters may be expeditiously and safely managed, the Grand-Master, or his Deputy, shall have power to nominate and appoint a certain number of Stewards, as his Worship shall think fit, to act in concert with the two Grand-Wardens ; all things relating to the Feast being decided amongst them by a Majority of Voices, except the Grand-Master or his Deputy interpose by a particular Direction or Appointment.

XXIV. The Wardens and STEWARDS shall, in due time, wait upon the Grand-Master, or his Deputy, for Directions and Orders about the premises ; but if his Worship and his Deputy are sick, or necessarily absent, they shall call together the Masters and Wardens of Lodges, to meet on purpose for their Advice and Orders ; or else they may take the Matter wholly upon themselves, and do the best they can.

The Grand-Wardens and the Stewards are to account for all the Money they receive, or expend, to the Grand-Lodge, after Dinner, or when the Grand-Lodge shall think fit to receive their Accounts.

If the GRAND-MASTER pleases, he may in due time summon all the Masters and Wardens of Lodges, to consult with them about ordering the Grand Feast, and about any Emergency or accidental thing relating thereunto, that may require Advice ; or else take it upon himself altogether.

XXV. The Masters of Lodges shall each appoint one experienced and discreet Fellow-Craft of his Lodge, to compose a committee, consisting of one from every Lodge, who shall meet to receive, in a convenient Apartment, every Person that brings a Ticket, and shall have power to discourse him, if they think fit, in order to admit him, or debar him, as they shall see cause : *Provided* they send no Man away before they have acquainted all the Brethren within Doors with the Reasons thereof, to avoid Mistakes ; that so no true Brother may be debarr'd, nor a false Brother, or mere Pretender, admitted. This Committee must meet very early on St. John's day at the place, even before any Persons come with Tickets.

XXVI. The Grand-Master shall appoint two or more TRUSTY BRETHREN to be Porters, or Door-keepers, who are also to be early at the Place, for some good Reasons ; and who are to be at the Command of the Committee.

XXVII. The Grand-Wardens, or the Stewards, shall appoint beforehand such a Number of Brethren to serve at Table as they think fit and proper for that Work ; and they may advise with the Masters and Wardens of Lodges about the most proper Persons, if they please, or may take in such by their Recommendation ; for none are to serve that

Day but Free and Accepted Masons, that the Communication may be free and harmonious.

XXVIII. All the Members of the Grand Lodge must be at the Place long before Dinner, with the Grand-Master, or his Deputy, at their Head, who shall retire, and form themselves. And this is done in order.

1. To receive any Appeals duly lodg'd, as above regulated, that the Appellant may be heard, and the Affair may be amicably decided before Dinner, if possible ; but if it cannot, it must be delay'd till after the new Grand-Master is elected ; and if it cannot be decided after Dinner, it may be delay'd, and referred to a particular Committee, that shall quietly adjust it, and make Report to the next Quarterly Communication, that Brotherly-Love may be preserv'd.

2. To prevent any Difference or Disgust which may be feared to arise that Day ; that no Interruption may be given to the Harmony and Pleasures of the Grand Feast.

3. To consult about whatever concerns the Decency and Decorum of the Grand Assembly, and to prevent all Indecency and ill Manners, the Assembly being promiscuous.

4. To receive and consider of any good Motion, or any momentous and Important Affair that shall be brought from the particular Lodges, by their Representatives, the several Masters and Wardens.

XXIX. After these things are discuss'd, the **GRAND-MASTER** and his Deputy, the Grand-Wardens, or the Stewards, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Clerks, and every other Person shall withdraw, and leave the Masters and Wardens of the particular Lodges alone, in order to consult amicably about electing a new Grand-Master, or continuing the present, if they have not done it the Day before ; and if they are unanimous for continuing the present Grand Master, his Worship shall be call'd in, and humbly desir'd to do the Fraternity the Honour of ruling them for the year ensuing : And after Dinner it will be known whether he accepts of it or not : For it should not be discover'd but by the Election itself.

XXX. Then the Masters and Wardens, and all the Brethren, may converse promiscuously, or as they please to sort together, until the Dinner is coming in, when every Brother takes his Seat at Table.

XXXI. Some time after Dinner, the Grand-Lodge is form'd, not in the Retirement, but in the Presence of all the Brethren, who yet are not Members of it, and must not therefore speak until they are desir'd and allow'd.

XXXII. If the **GRAND-MASTER** of last Year has consented with the Master and Wardens in private, before Dinner, to continue for the year ensuing ; then one of the Grand Lodge, deputed for that purpose, shall represent to all the Brethren his Worship's good Government,

&c. And, turning to him, shall in the name of the Grand-Lodge, humbly request him to do the Fraternity the great Honour, (if nobly born, if not,) the great Kindness of continuing to be their Grand-Master for the Year ensuing. And his Worship declaring his Consent by a Bow or a Speech, as he pleases, the said deputed Member of the Grand-Lodge shall proclaim him GRAND-MASTER, and all the Members of the Lodge shall salute him in due Form. And all the Brethren shall for a few Minutes have leave to declare their Satisfaction, Pleasure, and Congratulation.

XXXIII. But if either the Master and Wardens have not in private, this Day before Dinner, nor the Day before, desir'd the *last* GRAND-MASTER to continue in the Mastership another Year; or, if he, when desired, has not consented: Then,

The *last* Grand-Master shall nominate his successor for the Year ensuing, who if unanimously approved by the Grand-Lodge, and if there present, shall be proclaim'd, saluted, and congratulated the new GRAND-MASTER as above hinted, and immediately install'd by the last Grand-Master, according to Usage.

XXXIV. But if that Nomination is not unanimously approv'd, the new Grand-Master shall be chosen immediately by Ballot, every Master and Warden writing his Man's Name, and the last Grand-Master writing his Man's name too; and the Man whose Name the last Grand-Master shall first take out, casually or by chance, shall be Grand-Master for the Year ensuing; and, if present, he shall be proclaim'd, saluted, and congratulated, as above hinted, and forthwith install'd by the last Grand-Master, according to Usage.

XXXV. The last Grand-Master thus continued, or the new Grand-Master thus install'd, shall next nominate and appoint his Deputy Grand-Master, either the last or a new one, who shall be also declar'd, saluted and congratulated as above hinted.

The GRAND-MASTER shall also nominate the new Grand-Wardens, and, if unanimously approv'd by the Grand-Lodge, shall be declared, saluted, and congratulated, as above hinted; but if not, they shall be chosen by Ballot, in the same way as the Grand-Master: As the Wardens of private Lodges are also to be chosen by Ballot in each Lodge, if the Members thereof do not agree to their Master's Nomination.

XXXVI. But if the Brother, whom the present Grand-Master shall nominate for his Successor, or whom the Majority of the Grand Lodge shall happen to chuse by Ballot, is, by Sickness or other necessary Occasion, absent from the Grand-Feast he cannot be proclaim'd the new Grand-Master, unless the old Grand-Master, or some of the Masters and Wardens of the Grand-Lodge can vouch, upon the Honour of a Brother, that the said Person, so nominated or chosen, will readily accept of the said Office; in which case the old GRAND-MASTER shall act *oxy*, and shall nominate the Deputy and Wardens in his Name,

and in his Name also receive the usual Honours, Homage, and Congratulation.

XXXVII. Then the GRAND-MASTER shall allow any Brother, Fellow-Craft, or Apprentice to speak, directing his Discourse to his Worship; or to make any Motion for the good of the Fraternity, which shall be either immediately consider'd and finish'd, or else referr'd to the Consideration of the Grand-Lodge at their next Communication, stated or occasional. When that is over,

XXXVIII. The Grand-Master or his Deputy, or some Brother appointed by him, shall harangue all the Brethren, and give them good Advice: And lastly, after some other Transactions, that cannot be written in any Language, the Brethren may go away or stay longer, as they please.

XXXIX. Every Annual Grand-Lodge has an inherent Power and Authority to make new Regulations, or to alter these, for the real benefit of this ancient Fraternity: Provided always that the old Land-Marks be carefully preserv'd, and that such Alterations and new Regulations be proposed and agreed to at the third Quarterly Communication preceding the Annual Grand Feast; and that they be offered also to the Perusal of all the Brethren before Dinner, in writing, even of the youngest Apprentice; the Approbation and Consent of the Majority of all the Brethren present being absolutely necessary to make the same binding and obligatory; which must, after Dinner, and after the new Grand-Master is install'd, be solemnly desir'd; as it was desir'd and obtain'd for these Regulations, when propos'd by the Grand-Lodge, to about 150 Brethren, on St. John Baptist's Day, 1721.

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### P O S T S C R I P T .

Here follows the Manner of constituting a **New Lodge**, as practis'd by his GRACE the DUKE of WHARTON, the present RIGHT WORSHIPFUL **Grand-Master**, according to the ancient Usages of MASONS.

**A** **New Lodge**, for avoiding many Irregularities, should be solemnly constituted by the Grand-Master, with his Deputy and Wardens; or, in the Grand-Master's Absence, the Deputy shall act for his Worship, and shall chuse some Master of a Lodge to assist him; or, in case the Deputy is absent, the Grand-Master shall call forth some Master of a Lodge to act as Deputy *pro tempore*.

The Candidates, or the new Master and Wardens, being yet among the Fellow-Craft, the Grand-Master shall ask his Deputy if he has examin'd them, and finds the Candidate Master well skill'd in the *noble Science* and the *royal Art*, and duly instructed in our *Mysteries*, &c.

And the Deputy answering in the affirmative, he shall (by the Grand-Master's order) take the Candidate from among his Fellows, and present him to the Grand-Master; saying, *Right Worshipful Grand-Master: The Brethren here desire to be form'd into a new Lodge; and I present this my worthy Brother to be their Master, whom I know to be of good Morals and great Skill, true and trusty, and a Lover of the whole FRATERNITY, wheresoever dispers'd over the face of the EARTH.*

Then the Grand-Master, placing the candidate on his Left Hand, having ask'd and obtain'd the unanimous consent of all the Brethren, shall say: *I constitute and form these good brethren into a NEW LODGE, and appoint you the MASTER of it, not doubting of your Capacity and Care to preserve the CEMENT of the Lodge, &c.,* with some other Expressions that are proper and usual on that occasion, but not proper to be written.

Upon this, the Deputy shall rehearse the Charges of a Master, and the Grand-Master shall ask the candidate, saying, *Do you submit to these Charges, as MASTERS have done in all Ages?* And the candidate signifying his cordial Submission thereunto, the Grand-Master shall, by certain significant Ceremonies and ancient Usages, install him, and present him with the Constitutions, the Lodge-Book, and the Instruments of his Office—not altogether, but one after another; and after each of them, the Grand-Master, or his Deputy, shall rehearse the short and pithy Charge that is suitable to the thing presented.

After this, the members of this NEW LODGE, bowing all together to the Grand-Master, shall return his Worship Thanks, and immediately do their Homage to their NEW MASTER, and signify their Promise of Subjection and Obedience to him by the usual Congratulation.

The Deputy and the Grand-Wardens, and any other Brethren present, that are not members of this NEW LODGE, shall next congratulate the NEW MASTER; and he shall return his becoming Acknowledgments to the Grand-Master first, and to the rest in their Order.

Then the Grand-Master desires the New Master to enter immediately upon the Exercise of his Office, in chusing his Wardens: And the New Master, calling forth two Fellow-Craft, presents them to the Grand-Master for his Approbation, and to the New Lodge for their consent. And that being granted,

The Senior or Junior Grand-Warden, or some Brother for him, shall rehearse the Charges of Wardens; and the candidates being solemnly ask'd by the New Master, shall signify their submission thereunto.

Upon which the New Master, presenting them with the Instruments of their Office, shall, in due Form, install them in their proper places; and the Brethren of that New Lodge shall signify their Obedience to the new Wardens by the usual Congratulation.

And this Lodge, being thus compleatly constituted, shall be register'd in the Grand-Master's Book, and by his Order notify'd to the other Lodges.

## APPROBATION.

WHEREAS by the Confusions occasion'd in the SAXON, DANISH, and NORMAN Wars, the Records of Masons have been much vitiated, the Free Masons of England twice thought it necessary to correct their Constitutions, Charges, and Regulations; first in the Reign of King Athelstan the SAXON, and long after in the Reign of King Edward IV. the NORMAN: And whereas the old Constitutions in England have been much interpolated, mangled, and miserably corrupted, not only with false Spelling, but even with many false Facts and gross Errors in History and Chronology, through Length of Time, and the Ignorance of Transcribers, in the dark, illiterate Ages, before the Revival of Geometry and ancient Architecture, to the great offence of all the learned and judicious Brethren, whereby also the ignorant have been deceiv'd.

And our late Worthy GRAND-Master, his Grace the Duke of Montagu, having order'd the Author to peruse, correct, and digest, into a new and better Method, the History, Charges, and Regulations of the ancient Fraternity; He has accordingly examin'd several Copies from Italy and Scotland, and sundry Parts of England, and from thence, (tho' in many things erroneous,) and from several other ancient Records of Masons, he has drawn forth the above-written new Constitutions, with the CHARGES and General REGULATIONS. And the Author having submitted the whole to the Perusal and Corrections of the late and present Deputy Grand-Masters, and of other learned Brethren; and also of the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges at their Quarterly Communication: He did regularly deliver them to the late Grand-Master himself, the said Duke of Montagu, for his Examination. Correction, and Approbation; and his Grace, by the Advice of several Brethren, order'd the same to be handsomely printed for the use of the Lodges, though they were not quite ready for the Press during his Mastership.

Therefore We, the present Grand-Master of the Right Worshipful and most ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, the Deputy Grand-Master, the Grand-Wardens, the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges (with the Consent of the Brethren and Fellows in and about the Cities of London and Westminster) having also perused this Performance, Do Join our laudable Predecessors in our solemn Approbation thereof, as what We believe will fully answer the End proposed; all the valuable things of the old Records being retained, the Errors in

History and Chronology corrected, the false Facts and the improper Words omitted, and the whole digested in a new and better method.

And we ordain That these be receiv'd in every particular Lodge under our Cognizance, as the Only Constitutions of Free and Accepted Masons amongst us, to be read at the making of new Brethren, or when the Master shall think fit ; and which the new Brethren should peruse before they are made.

PHILIP, DUKE OF WHARTON, *Grand-Master*.

J. T. DESAGULIERS, LL. D. and F. R. S., *Deputy Grand-Master*,

JOSHUA TIMSON, }  
WILLIAM HAWKINS, } *Grand-Wardens*.

And the *Masters* and *Wardens* of particular *Lodges*, viz.

- |                                         |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| I. THOMAS MORRIS, sen., <i>Master</i> . | XI. FRANCIS, Earl of DALKEITH, <i>Master</i> .      |
| JOHN BRISTOW, } <i>Wardens</i> .        | Capt. ANDREW ROBINSON, } <i>Wardens</i> .           |
| ABRAHAM ABBOT, }                        | COL. THOMAS INWOOD,                                 |
| II. RICHARD HALL, <i>Master</i> .       | XII. JOHN BEAL, M. D. and F. R. S., <i>Master</i> . |
| PHILIP WOLVERSTON, } <i>Wardens</i> .   | EDWARD PAWLET, Esq., } <i>Wardens</i> .             |
| JOHN DOYER, }                           | CHARLES MORE, Esq., }                               |
| III. JOHN TURNER, <i>Master</i> .       | XIII. THOMAS MORRIS, jun., <i>Master</i> .          |
| ANTHONY SAYER, } <i>Wardens</i> .       | JOSEPH RIDLER, } <i>Wardens</i> .                   |
| EDWARD CALE, }                          | JOHN CLARK,                                         |
| IV. Mr. GEORGE PAYNE, <i>Master</i> .   | XIV. THOMAS ROBBE, Esq., <i>Master</i> .            |
| STEPHEN HALL, M. D., } <i>Wardens</i> . | THOMAS GRAVE, } <i>Wardens</i> .                    |
| FRANCIS SORELL, Esq., }                 | BRAY LANE,                                          |
| V. Mr. MATH. BIREHEAD, <i>Master</i> .  | XV. Mr. JOHN SHEPHERD, <i>Master</i> .              |
| FRANCIS BAILY, } <i>Wardens</i> .       | JOHN SENEX, } <i>Wardens</i> .                      |
| NICHOLAS ABRAHAM, }                     | JOHN BUCLER, }                                      |
| VI. WILLIAM READ, <i>Master</i> .       | XVI. JOHN GEORGES, Esq., <i>Master</i> .            |
| JOHN GLOVER, } <i>Wardens</i> .         | ROBERT GRAY, Esq., } <i>Wardens</i> .               |
| ROBERT CORDELL, }                       | CHARLES GRYMES, Esq., }                             |
| VII. HENRY BRANSON, <i>Master</i> .     | XVII. JAMES ANDERSON, A. M., } <i>Master</i> .      |
| HENRY LUG, } <i>Wardens</i> .           | The Author of this Book, }                          |
| JOHN TOWNSHEND, }                       | GWINN VAUGHAN, Esq., } <i>Wardens</i> .             |
| VIII. <i>Master</i> .                   | WALTER GREENWOOD, Esq., }                           |
| JONATHAN SISSON, } <i>Wardens</i> .     | XVIII. THOMAS HARBIN, <i>Master</i> .               |
| JOHN SHIPTON, }                         | WILLIAM ATTLEY, } <i>Wardens</i> .                  |
| IX. GEORGE OWEN, M. D., <i>Master</i> . | JOHN SAXON.                                         |
| EMAN BOWEN, } <i>Wardens</i> .          | XIX. ROBERT CAPELL, <i>Master</i> .                 |
| JOHN HEATH, }                           | ISAAC MANSFIELD, } <i>Wardens</i> .                 |
| X. <i>Master</i> .                      | WILLIAM BLY,                                        |
| JOHN LUBTON, } <i>Wardens</i> .         | XX. JOHN GORMAN, <i>Master</i> .                    |
| RICHARD SMITH, }                        | CHARLES GAREY, } <i>Wardens</i> .                   |
|                                         | EDWARD MORPHEY, }                                   |

NOTE BY THE COMPILER.—We deem it unnecessary to reproduce the songs of the original. In all other respects we have given a verbatim copy of the work, as published in 1723.

[The following was added as a note to fill out a page in the musical part of the original.]

It is thought not amiss to insert here a Paragraph from an old Record of Masons, viz. The Company of Masons, being otherwise

termed Free Masons, of ancient Standing and good Reckoning, by means of affable and kind Meetings diverse Tymes, and as a loving Brotherhood shoud use to doe, did frequent this mutual Assembly in the Tyme of King Henry V. the 12th Year of his most gracious Reign. And the said Record describing a Coat of Arms, much the same with that of the London Company of Freemen Masons, it is generally believ'd that the said Company is descended of the ancient Fraternity; and that in former Times no man was made Free of that Company, until he was install'd in some Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, as a necessary Qualification. But that laudable Practice seems to have been long in Dissuetude. The Brethren in foreign Parts have also discover'd that several noble and ancient Societies and Orders of Men have derived their *Charges and Regulations* from the Free Masons, (which are now the most ancient Order upon Earth,) and perhaps were originally all members too of the said ancient and worshipful Fraternity. But this will more fully appear in due time.

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LONDON, this 17th Day of January, 1723.

At the *Quarterly Communication*, This Book, which was undertaken at the Command of His *Grace* the Duke of MONTAGU, our late *Grand-Master*, having been regularly approved in Manuscript by the *Grand-Lodge*, was this Day produced here in Print, and approved by the *Society*: Wherefore we do hereby Order the same to be Published, and recommend it for the Use of the *Lodges*.

PHILIP, DUKE OF WHARTON, *Grand-Master*.

I.* T. DESAGULIERS, *Deputy Grand-Master*.

FINIS.

* [Sic in *origine*. This is evidently a typographical error. In the dedication the name is correctly given J. T. Desaguliers. The full name was John Theophilus Desaguliers.—COMP.]

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 11, 1858.

M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY, *Grand Master*.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 11th, A. D. 1858, A. L. 5858, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY, Grand Master.
R. W. E. R. IVES, as Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. D. C. DAWKINS, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. C. C. FLETCHER, as Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. McK. TYDINGS, Grand Chaplain.
W. D. S. WALKER, as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. SAMUEL J. ERWIN, as Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother GEORGE DAYMAN, Grand Tyler.

P. G. M. THOMAS BROWN, SAMUEL B. STEPHENS, Brother CREED FULTON, President of the Southern Masonic Female College of Georgia, with a due representation of subordinate Lodges, members, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Right Rev. McK. Tydings, Grand Chaplain.

On motion, a committee, consisting of Brothers Hayward, Holland, and D. S. Walker, was appointed to wait on our distinguished Brother Robert Morris, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and invite him to visit the Grand Lodge of Florida.

The Grand Master appointed as the committee on Returns and Credentials, Brothers Baltzell, Walker, and Branch.

Brother Robert Morris was announced and received with Grand Honors, and was invited to take his seat in the East, to the right of the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Master delivered the following address :

"Through the indulgence of a merciful Providence, we are again permitted to assemble in Grand Convocation, in this sacred Hall, dedicated to God, and consecrated to Freemasonry ; and permit me now to greet you with a hearty and fraternal salutation on this occasion, and congratulate you upon the peace, harmony, and fraternity that have pervaded our Order during vacation.

" We as a people have been especially blessed with health and abundant harvests, and as creatures of the Creator, we have ample cause to offer up devout thanks for these blessings to the Great Grand Master of the Universe.

" It is my melancholy duty to announce to you the death of Brother D. W. McCranie, Senior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge. He was known to us for years as a zealous and ardent Mason, a good man, a loving husband, a kind parent, an indulgent master, respected and loved by those among whom he lived for his many virtues and charities. He died in the discharge of his Masonic duties.

" By a resolution of the last Grand Lodge, it was made the duty of the Grand Master to attend the Masonic Convention held in May at Alligator. It would have afforded me much pleasure to have been present, but the prevalence of an epidemic in our midst admonished me that my duty was at home. The result of the labor of that Convention will be placed before you by the Grand Secretary for your consideration.

" I have also been debarred the pleasure of visiting any of the Lodges in this jurisdiction during vacation, on account of protracted sickness in my family. I have granted dispensations for a Lodge in Madison County, to be called Mosely Hall Lodge ; also for one at Miccosukie, to be called Miccosukie Lodge.

" The history of our past convocations assures me that the same characteristics which have ever marked our deliberations, will prevail in this. It is needless for me here to point them out to you.

" It is expected, however, that every brother will use his best endeavors to promote the prosperity of the Craft in the discharge of the business which will come before us.

" I have received a circular from a committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of Maine, upon the subject of the formation of a General Grand Lodge, which I lay before this Grand body for its action.

" Since the last Grand communication, there have been placed in my hands two letters from the Grand Master of Alabama, addressed to Past Grand Master Shine, urging in the most fraternal manner, the appointment by this Grand Lodge of a representative near that of Alabama. I took the responsibility to make the appointment, and accordingly appointed Past Grand Master David Clopton, of Tuskegee, Alabama. I was assured that the courtesy would be reciprocated by the

Grand Master of Alabama appointing a representative for that Grand body near this, and I am happy to announce to you that the Grand Master of Alabama has appointed Brother J. Wales Baker, of this city, the representative of that Grand body near this.

"Accept, brethren, my sincere thanks for the distinguished honor conferred upon me in electing me to preside over your deliberations. Conscious of my inability to discharge the duties of so high an office satisfactorily to myself, I must ask your aid in discharge of them, and hope that all errors will be attributed to judgment and not to design.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"T. Y. HENRY, *Grand Master.*"

On motion, Brothers Brown, Hayward, and Holland were appointed to make arrangements for an address and public installation.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until four o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, four o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the morning.

Brother Thomas Brown, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, which was read and adopted, and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Called to refreshment at seven o'clock, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

On motion, a Special Committee, consisting of Brothers Ives, Ellenwood, and Hayward, was appointed on Masonic Literature.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees :

- On By-Laws and Dispensations—Brothers ELLENWOD, MARSTON, and R. M. TYDINGS.
- On Ways and Means—Brothers DAWKINS, WALKER, and STEWART.
- On Propositions and Grievances—Brothers IVES, ELLENWOOD, and HOLLAND.
- On Visitors—Brothers HOLLAND and IRWIN.
- On Unfinished Business—Brothers BRINSON, SIMMONS, and DE WITT.
- On Education—Brothers WALKER, IVES, and BROWN.
- On Accounts—Brothers HOLLAND, BRANCH and STEWART.
- On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers BROWN, HAYWARD, IVES, STEPHENS, and JAMES M. BAKER.

Bro. D. C. Dawkins exemplified the work in the Master's Degree.

The special committee of Arrangements made the following report, which was received and adopted :

"The special committee, appointed to make arrangements on the occasion of the installation in public of the Grand Officers, when an

Oration will be delivered by Brother Robert Morris, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, beg leave to report, that the public installation of the Grand Officers will take place at the Methodist church in this city, on Thursday evening, at half-past seven o'clock, when the Fraternity will march in procession from the Grand Lodge Hall to the Methodist church ; and, after the ceremonies of installation, an oration will be pronounced by Bro. Morris. Suitable music for the occasion will be provided. All Masons sojourning in the city, in good standing, are invited to join in the procession, and the citizens generally are respectfully invited to the church.

"T. BROWN,
"T. HAYWARD,
"D. P. HOLLAND, } Committee."

Called to refreshment until nine o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 12, nine o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made the following report, which was received and charters ordered :

"The committee on Dispensations and By-Laws beg leave to report, that they have examined the By-Laws of Moseley Hall Lodge, under dispensation, and find the same correct, and recommend that a charter be granted.

"They have likewise examined the By-Laws of Gainesville Lodge, No. 41, and find them correct and recommend their approval.

"They have also examined the By-Laws of Miccosukie Lodge, under dispensation, and find them correct, and recommend that their by-laws be approved and a charter be granted.

"JAS. ELLENWOOD,
"R. W. MARSTON,
"R. M. TYDINGS."

Bro. A. D. McKennon, representative of Orion Lodge, No. 40, presented the following resolution, asking leave to change the place of holding the meetings of said Lodge :

"At a regular meeting of Orion Lodge, No. 40, on the 3d Saturday in December, 1857, *Resolved*, That our representative to the next annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Florida be instructed to obtain an order of the Grand Lodge to change the regular meetings of this Lodge from VERNON, in the county of Washington, to ORANGE HILL, in said county."

Which, on motion of Bro. Thomas Brown, was adopted and leave granted.

The committee on Returns made the following report, which was adopted :

"The committee on Credentials and Returns have examined the returns of the following Lodges and find them correct, viz.: Jackson Lodge, No. 1, D. S. Walker, representative ; Washington Lodge, No. 2, S. B. Stephens, representative ; Harmony Lodge, No. 3, for '56 and '57, G. F. Baltzell, W. M. ; Hiram Lodge, No. 5, J. Ellenwood, W. M. ; Franklin Lodge, No. 6, T. Hayward, proxy for officers ; Madison Lodge, No. 11, G. M. T. Brinson, representative ; St. John's Lodge, No. 12, J. B. Taylor, proxy ; Dade Lodge, No. 14, Thos. Brown, proxy ; Escambia Lodge, No. 15, no representative ; Centreville Lodge, No. 18, C. C. Fletcher, representative ; Marion Lodge, No. 19, R. W. Marston, representative ; Solomon's Lodge, No. 20, R. McK. Tydings, representative ; Gee Lodge, No. 21, Geo. W. Sunday, representative ; Hamilton Lodge, No. 22, J. J. Polhill, representative ; Newport Lodge, No. 23, Wm. M. Simmons, representative ; Hillsborough Lodge, No. 25, D. A. Branch, representative ; Columbia Lodge, No. 27, E. R. Ives, representative and proxy for officers ; Concordia Lodge, No. 28, N. R. Hand, representative ; Micanopy Lodge, No. 29, Jno. Penny, representative ; De Soto Lodge, No. 32, Thos. Hayward, proxy ; Jefferson Lodge, No. 33, James W. Dewitt, representative ; Palatka Lodge, No. 24, T. Hayward, proxy W. M. ; Orient Lodge, No. 27, Henry J. Stewart, representative ; Chipola Lodge, No. 38, D. C. Dawkins, representative ; Orion Lodge, No. 40, Angus D. McKinnon, representative ; Gainesville Lodge, No. 41, E. R. Ives, proxy for W. M. ; Moseley Hall, Lodge, No. 43, J. A. Newman, representative ; Miccosukie Lodge, No. 44, T. K. Leonard, representative ; Manatee Lodge, No. 31, Wm. H. Wyatt, representative ; Manatee Lodge, No. 31, Wm. H. Wyatt, representative ; Alachua Lodge, No. 26, John Penny, representative ; Washington Lodge, No. 2, D. P. Holland, proxy for W. M. ; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, Geo. D. Fisher, representative ; Naval Lodge, No. 14, E. R. Ives, proxy for W. M.

"The committee would recommend that the Secretaries of subordinate Lodges be admonished to be more particular in returning the Masonic grade of its members, and the form found in Cross' *Chart* for credentials to representatives be adopted with a view to uniformity.

"GEO. F. BALTZELL,

"D. A. BRANCH,

"D. S. WALKER."

The committee on By-Laws and Dispensations made the following report, which was received and adopted :

"The committee on By-Laws and Dispensations beg leave to report, that they have before them a petition from a competent number of Master Masons at Fort Drum, Marion county, Florida, and properly

recommended by Micanopy Lodge, asking a charter empowering them to work as a regular Lodge of Ancient York Masons. We therefore recommend that a charter be granted them.

"JAMES ELLENWOOD, *Chairman.*"

Brother Thomas Brown offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Great Grand Master of the Universe to call from the labors of earth to refreshment above our beloved Brother R. W. D. W. McCranie, of Walton county, Grand Senior Warden of this Grand Lodge, therefore,

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge have heard of the death of Brother McCranie with deep sorrow, and sincerely sympathize with the afflicted family of our deceased brother.

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of Masonic mourning for the space of thirty days, as a testimonial of respect to the memory of their deceased brother.

Brother Thomas Hayward offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved by this Grand Lodge, That no dispensation or charter shall be granted to any set of Masons, unless the Master and Wardens named in the application be first examined as to their proficiency in the three Degrees by the Master and Wardens or Lodge recommending them, and that said examination shall not be considered sufficient unless the entire ceremony of opening and closing the Lodge, with all the lectures of each degree, are fully and completely exhibited in open Lodge, and such satisfactory examination be endorsed on the application.

Called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the morning.

Brother J. Wayles Baker, Past Grand Master, representative of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, presented his credentials and was received with Grand honors.

Brother Holland offered the following resolutions, which were received and adopted unanimously :

1st. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of Florida be, and they are hereby tendered to P. G. M. Thomas Brown, chairman of the committee of Foreign Correspondence, for the able report made by him to this Grand Lodge.

2d. *Resolved*, That, as a testimony of the high opinion entertained by this Grand Lodge of the Masonic ability, industry and faithful discharge of his duties as chairman of the committee of Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Master be, and he is hereby requested to procure a Past Grand Master's Jewel and present the same to Thomas Brown, Past Grand Master.

3d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master draw on the treasury for the sum of money necessary to procure said Jewel.

The special committee made the following report, which was received and the resolutions unanimously adopted :

"The committee appointed to confer with R. W. Brother Robert

Morris in relation to the subject of Masonic Literature, and to suggest to the Grand Lodge the most practicable method of extending its blessings to the Fraternity in this jurisdiction, beg leave to report that your committee conferred with Brother Morris, and learned, to their entire satisfaction, that the great national enterprise toward which the Grand Lodge last year loaned Brother Morris \$100, entitled '*The Universal Masonic Library*,' is now completed. The sketch given us by Brother Morris of the many and severe difficulties met and overcome by the accomplishment of this work, was in the highest degree interesting. The Masonic Fraternity of the United States may well congratulate itself that there was energy to pursue, as well as wisdom to conduct, such an important effort to its final completion.

"The Universal Masonic Library is a series of 30 octavo volumes, averaging 400 pages each. In this series are embraced 54 different works upon the history, philosophy and jurisprudence of the Masonic institution. All the older works, commencing with Anderson's *Constitution* and including Calcott's, Hutchinson's, Smith's, Preston's, &c., are contained in this collection, together with those of Oliver, Mackey and Brother Morris himself. In brief, there is nothing omitted which can make a full, enlightened, and learned Mason.

"The price of this library, which is astonishingly low and scarcely the sixth of the cost of such works three years ago, is yet beyond the means of many of our Lodges. Their outlays for halls, &c., and for charity, renders them unable to subscribe even the small sum of fifty dollars each. It is therefore thought by your committee most appropriate to recommend that the Grand Lodge become the purchaser and the subordinate Lodges the recipients of these libraries. Arrangements, we feel assured, can be made with the publisher whereby the payment for these libraries of \$2,900 can be brought within the ability of the Grand Lodge, without inconvenience to our treasury or to the great delay in the reception of the books.

"Your committee cannot forget that this Grand Lodge was one of the first to express itself in favor of a generous diffusion of Masonic literature. Under the lead of the lamented Douglas, the Grand Lodge from year to year added new purchases to its own collection, and encouraged the subordinate Lodges and brethren to do likewise. Upon the appeal of Brother Morris, a loan of \$100 was promptly made toward the completion of this great work, and in every available manner the Grand Lodge has shown its willingness, in the language of its own constitution, 'to devise and design plans, problems, and positions for its subordinate Lodges to execute.' Nor would your committee overlook the immense, the priceless advantages to result to Freemasonry in this State from such a distribution of the present soundest works that Masons have ever written. In every Lodge there are some young, intellectual, and enthusiastic minds, yearning to acquire a profound knowledge of the institution, willing to endure the labor that

they may honor the Order and themselves. Let us afford to such the means of inquiry, a perfect knowledge of Masonic history, philosophy, and laws, and but a short time will elapse until we shall see by the infusion of this enlightened intellect in this Grand Lodge the exceeding great propriety of our course, and appropriate untold blessings to our Order.

"In view of these considerations, your committee propose the following resolutions :

"1st. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Florida reaffirm its approval of all proper methods for securing a greater dissemination of Masonic light.

"2d. *Resolved*, That the publication entitled 'The Universal Masonic Library,' compiled by R. W. Brother Robert Morris, deserves the attention and support of the Craft, as well for the fullness and the neatness and accuracy of its volumes, as for the valuable matter they contain.

"3d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge hereby engages to purchase for the use of the Grand and subordinate Lodges forty complete sets of the work, at cost, not to exceed two thousand dollars.

"Respectfully submitted by the committee,

"E. R. IVES, *Chairman*."

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor until seven o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 13th, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before.

The Grand Lodge went into an election of officers, when

M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY was duly elected Grand Master,

R. W. E. R. IVES was unanimously elected Deputy Grand Master,

R. W. D. C. DAWKINS was duly elected Grand Senior Warden,

R. W. HENRY J. STEWART was duly elected Grand Junior Warden,

R. W. JNO. B. TAYLOR was unanimously elected Grand Secretary,

R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD was unanimously elected Grand Treasurer,

R. Rev. D. P. EVERETT was duly elected Grand Chaplain.

Called to refreshment until ten o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, January 14, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

The select committee on the Constitution made the following report, which was laid on the table to be taken up to-morrow :

"The select committee, to whom was referred the various propositions to change or modify the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that our constitution has worked well, and, in the opinion of this committee, needs

but little or no change. The five propositions reported by the committee on unfinished business are now prepared and ready for action, and this committee deem it improper to express an opinion on the expediency or in expediency of these measures. The committee would respectfully offer the following resolutions in explanation of former resolutions of this Grand Lodge :

“ Resolved, That hereafter the senior officer in grade present, in the absence of the representative, shall represent the subordinate Lodge of which he is a member, and shall be entitled to receive the pay which the representative would be entitled to when present : Provided, however, That proxies for officers shall not be so paid.

“ Resolved, That hereafter the officers duly elected and installed immediately preceding the annual communication are entitled to represent and vote in the Grand Lodge.

<p>“ THOS. BROWN, “ GEO. F. BALTZELL, “ JNO. P. DUVAL, “ D. P. HOLLAND, “ D. C. DAWKINS, “ THOS. HAYWARD, “ SAM. B. STEPHENS,</p>	}	Committee.”
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The committee on Propositions and Grievances made the following report, which was received and adopted :

“ The committee on Propositions and Grievances report that your committee have had before them a petition from Jefferson Lodge, No. 33, praying this Grand Lodge for a remission of its dues for the past year, for the purpose of enabling them to complete their Hall ; on which your committee report, that it would be impolitic in the Grand Lodge at this time to make donations of this kind, inasmuch as the Grand Lodge has made engagements which will require all its means to meet ; and your committee further believe that, were the prayer of the petitioners granted, it would be establishing a precedent which would be continually subjecting it to applications of this kind, which, if granted, would absorb the entire fund of the Grand Lodge, and which fund your committee believe to be no more than sufficient to enable it to carry on the legitimate purposes incumbent upon it. Your committee would therefore recommend that the dues of Jefferson Lodge, No. 33, be not remitted.

“ E. R. IVES,
 “ JAMES ELLENWOOD.
 “ D. P. HOLLAND.”

· Called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 14, seven o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Officers and members present as in the morning.

A procession was formed, under the direction of Brother D. P. Hol-

land, Grand Marshal, and proceeded to the Methodist church, when the ceremonies of installation were publicly performed, after which the distinguished Orator was introduced to the crowded assemblage by P. G. M. R. K. Call in an appropriate manner ; and then the audience were enchained for an hour with a most eloquent and impressive address. The whole scene was rendered the more enchanting by superior music from a volunteer choir of ladies and gentlemen of the city, got up for the occasion.

The procession then returned to the Grand Lodge Hall, when the following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to address a note to our distinguished Brother Robert Morris, thanking him on the part of the members of this Grand Lodge for the able and eloquent address delivered by him this evening, on the occasion of the installation of the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, and to request that he will furnish a copy for publication with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Whereupon the M. W. Grand Master appointed on said committee Brothers Brown, Ives, and Stephens.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Trustees of the Methodist Church, for the use of the same, and for the handsome manner in which it was prepared for the occasion.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the ladies and gentlemen of Tallahassee who composed the choir and added so much to the charms and elegance of the occasion of our public Installation and Oration.

The Craft were called to refreshment until to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, January 15, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as on yesterday.

Bro. Brown offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized, and hereby required to subscribe for one copy of *The Masonic Quarterly Review*, published in the city of New York, by Bro. Mackey and others, on the part of the Grand Lodge of Florida, as a permanent subscription for the Grand Lodge Library.

Bro. Ives offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the publisher of the Universal Masonic Library be paid at this time one-third the value of twenty sets of the same, and that upon the delivery of the said twenty sets to the Grand Secretary at Tallahassee, the Grand Master execute notes in his official capacity, countersigned and sealed by the Grand Secretary, for the balance of said amount payable in equal installments January 12th, 1859, and January 12th, 1860.

Resolved, That those Lodges which were pledged by their representatives or officers to contribute fifty dollars each toward the purchase of these libraries, are requested to forward that amount to the Grand Secretary by the 1st of May, and receive their sets of the library.

On motion, Bros. Brown, Ives, and Hayward were appointed a committee to prepare and have printed and bound the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, from its creation to the present communication, inclusive, the same having been ordered by the Grand Lodge. The number of copies to be fixed by the committee.

Bro. Holland offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby tendered to the officers and members who, in accordance with a resolution of this Grand Lodge, did attend the Masonic Convention at Alligator, Florida.

Bro. Ives offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to our highly esteemed Bro. Robt. Morris, R. W. Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, for his valuable services during the session of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary cause a copy of this resolution to be made under the seal of this Grand Lodge.

To which Bro. P. G. M. Stephens offered an amendment, that the Grand Secretary procure an appropriate Jewel, to be presented to Brother Morris by this Grand Lodge, which was received, and the resolution, as amended, unanimously adopted.

The select committee, appointed to obtain a copy of Bro. Morris' address for publication, reported the following correspondence (*see the Address in Appendix*):

" GRAND LODGE HALL, }
" TALLAHASSEE, Jan'y 14, 1858. }

"*Very Dear and R. W. Brother* :—We are a committee, appointed by the Grand Lodge of Florida, to communicate to you the thanks of the Fraternity for the address delivered last night in the Methodist church, on the occasion of the public installation of the Grand Officers, which we listened to with emotions we have no words to express, and which fell upon our hearts like the dew on Hermon, and to request you to furnish a copy to be published in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, that those of the brethren who had not the advantage to enjoy the beauty and force of its delivery may have an opportunity to read it.

" Very truly and fraternally yours,

" THOS. BROWN,

" E. R. IVES,

" S. B. STEPHENS.

" R. W. Bro. ROBT. MORRIS, D. G. M. of Kentucky."

" TALLAHASSEE, FLA., Jan. 15, 1858.

" *M. W. Thomas Brown, M. W. Samuel B. Stephens, and R. W. E. R. Ives, Committee* :

" *BRETHREN* :—Your complimentary note of yesterday would remove any doubts I might have entertained as to the propriety of publishing

the address alluded to. Although I cannot in conscience adopt your so flattering estimate of its merits, seeing that it was prepared in undue haste, yet I know the accuracy of its statements, and am myself sensibly alive to the force of its counsels, and do therefore cheerfully consent to your wishes.

"I cannot turn my back upon your hospitable land without bearing this testimony to the Masonic merits of those brethren with whom I have made acquaintance here, that nowhere in all the broad circle of Masonry have I found brighter evidences of the benign operation of our philanthropic Order than in Florida. May your present prosperity be perpetual.

"Respected and dear brothers,

"Yours in fervent regard,

"ROB. MORRIS."

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have received and examined the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Lodges in the United States, viz. : Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, and the Phillips Grand Lodge of New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, and Wisconsin, and the Grand Lodge of Canada and the 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada ;' and they beg leave to present the following report, regretting that they cannot add to this list the Grand Lodges of Alabama, District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Virginia, which have not been received by your committee.

ARKANSAS.

"This Grand Lodge held its annual communication in the city of Little Rock, Monday, 5th November, 1856, Nat. G. Smith, M. W. Grand Master, presiding—T. D. Merrick, R. W. Grand Secretary. The Grand Master's Address is a very good paper. He comments largely on the duties of Officers of Lodges, and the study and practice of the moral law. He says 'efficient officers make efficient Lodges.' These are the words of wisdom, and ought to be inscribed in letters of gold on the altar of every Lodge. If the Grand Lodge were to require the Master and Wardens of all new Lodges to exemplify their work in the Grand Lodge before charters were granted, it would have a better effect to remedy the evil of *non-affiliating* Masons than all that has ever been said and written on the subject, as well as to establish uniformity of work. There are thousands of Masons, who have been initiated, passed, and raised by uninformed Masters of Lodges, who have gone

away in the dark, disgusted, and lived and died, believing Masonry all a humbug. Upon this subject, the Grand Lodge of New York adopted the following resolution at its last annual communication :

"Resolved, That the first three officers named in a petition for a dispensation shall appear before the Lodge, whose recommendation is constitutionally necessary, and exhibit their work in three degrees, and if, in the judgment of said Lodge, said officers are competent to confer the degrees and impart the lectures, the said Lodge may recommend the said petitioners for a dispensation, and not otherwise.

"The worthy Grand Master is enthusiastic in his support of the contemplated St. John's College in that jurisdiction, and his address is followed by a long and very learned report from the Board of Trustees of that institution, presented by Brother Borland.

"The report gives a history of the institution, which was authorized by the Grand Lodge in 1850, and concurred in by all the subordinate Lodges. The enterprise was entered into with great spirit, and for a time 'contributions were received in its behalf, not alone from the Fraternity, in their Lodges and as individuals, but from *citizens generally*;' and, in 1853, the Grand Lodge passed 'an edict assessing the sum of two dollars upon each affiliated Mason within its jurisdiction, to be paid annually, as a fixed basis for incidental contributions from other sources.' But this 'edict' creating dissatisfaction, in 1854, was revoked, and was followed by 'an obvious and decided abatement of confidence and interest on the part even of the most sanguine and zealous friends of the enterprise.' For the last two years no collections have been made, and not even the spot, where the corner-stone of the superstructure is to be laid has yet been agreed upon, and an entire suspension of all efforts in its behalf, yet the Board of Trustees express sanguine hopes of its final success. We respectfully think we can see two prominent causes of the failure of this enterprise : first, the *primary* attempt to accomplish it by voluntary contributions, and then the attempt to make *forced assessments*; secondly, making it a *Masonic* institution, entirely under the control of the Grand Lodge, and then on taking subscriptions *on credit* from *friends of the enterprise outside of the Lodges*. Under such circumstances, harmony and concert of action should not have been expected. Whilst being 'nurtured in the triune light which shines around Masonic altars,' and executed according to the beautiful design a Master's hand had drawn upon the Trestle-Board,' the *profane*, who had agreed to give their money in aid of the enterprise, would naturally be desirous to know something about the manner of its appropriation, and would not be satisfied when told that they could not be permitted to look 'within the secret chambers' where things were managed 'affecting their individual interest.' Not only jealousy and discord would be the consequence, but, that which would be more scandalous to Masonry, *law suits in which the Grand Lodge would be a party*. But we deferentially ask, for

what purpose is this struggle made to build up a *literary* institution to be placed under the patronage of a *Masonic* institution, when *confessedly* they had not the means to accomplish the enterprise? Is the object to educate only the sons of Masons; or, in the true *Masonic spirit*, the children and orphans of poor and destitute Masons? And is it intended that *they* shall all receive such a classical education as will enable them to read Homer in the original language? If not, and it is intended to be a literary institution, for general instruction and open to all, why desire to place it under the patronage of a *Masonic* institution? Does Masonry require such adventitious aids to the accomplishment of its great design? No one in this enlightened age will deny the importance of promoting institutions for educational purposes in every section of this wide-spread republic, resting upon the intelligence and moral culture of its people; but does it follow that Academies, Colleges, and Universities must be under the control of *Masonic* institutions? Masons can encourage such institutions without assuming their control. Why not let the PEOPLE and the STATE control them? The mission of Masonry is to the poor and helpless. She carries on her banner Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. 'Charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.' Her works are not done to be 'talked of of men.' It may be asked, how many poor children have been educated in that jurisdiction in the last six years, or will be in the six-times-six years which will roll round, probably, before its completion? And, when completed, how many poor children of Masons will ever be educated at it? A little more common sense and less learning might suggest the propriety of how much more good could have been done in the last six years, if a few children of poor and destitute Masons—or other poor children, if the means would justify it—had been sent by the Master and Wardens of subordinate Lodges to schools in their respective neighborhoods, where such an education might be obtained, at but little cost, as would prepare them for some trade, calling or pursuit which would enable them to support themselves and make useful members of society in the true spirit and genius of Masonry.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report by their chairman, Brother L. E. Baker, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Lodges. On the Canadian question they say:

"Your committee, acknowledging their sympathies for those whose grievances have led them to attempt independence, are not prepared at this time to advise a recognition of that body; but, in view of its having been recognized as a legitimate Grand Lodge by several of our sister Grand Lodges, they suggest that if you desire a full report upon the condition of Masonry in Canada and the cause of this movement, you refer the whole subject to a select committee.'

"But it does not appear that any committee was appointed on that subject.

"Brother Geo. A. Gallacher, the Grand Orator, delivered an eloquent

address on the occasion of the public installation of the Grand Officers in the Hall of the House of Representatives.

CALIFORNIA.

"The Grand Lodge of this sister State on the far off Pacific held its eighth annual communication in the city of Sacramento, 12th of May, 1857—M. W. Wm. H. Howard, Grand Master ; R. W. Alexander G. Abell, Grand Secretary. The proceedings of this Grand Lodge are comprised in a book of 220 pages, with an index, gotten up in handsome style, on fine paper, closely printed in small type. The address of the Grand Master is long and evidently written with much care and reflection. He reminds the members of acknowledgements first due to the SUPREME GRAND MASTER for His protection during the past year, and says, 'with the year that has passed have gone also the loved and the lost of our own number. They have been few, but many have lamented their fate.' He calls the attention of the Grand Lodge, to the consideration of many important questions which involve the future peace and harmony of the Order, and speaks favorably of the condition of the Craft generally throughout the jurisdiction, although he regrets to say 'that it is not wholly free from the operation of adverse influences. Instances have occurred where its peace and harmony have been disturbed by those who, in consequence of their elevated positions, should have been their principal conservators ; and this is the more to be deplored, as it is calculated to reflect the more discredit upon the institution.' And enumerates a number of cases which would go to show a very bad state of proper Masonic subordination ; if we were not to reflect, that in a newly settled community offering so many peculiar attractions to men of all characters and principles, there would be some of the unworthy, who would under the prestige of Masonic confidence, find their way to high official positions. But these are evils to which all institutions are liable ; and will find a remedy in the vigilance of such efficient officers as grace the Grand Lodge of that flourishing jurisdiction.

"We have another characteristic report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, by Brother Alexander G. Abell, the chairman, who is also the Grand Secretary. The report is evincive of a patient and careful reading and condensation of all the proceedings before the committee, and conclude thus : 'Your committee have thus presented a reflex of the transactions of thirty-one of the Grand Lodges of the United States, together with such information from foreign Grand bodies as has been communicated by them. They have paused but little to discuss or comment upon any subject, having been compelled to hasten through this labor, almost with locomotive speed.' The committee acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of Florida for 1856, and remark, 'A very singular document, to be called "Anderson's Constitutions," is presented under that name in the appendix, and we con-

fess our ignorance of the reason why an old fashioned history of Masonry, from the time of Adam to the reign of George the first, should, by order of the Grand Lodge of Florida, have appeared in its proceedings under that title.' Well, we do not at all wonder at our Brother Abell's surprise. It is very certain that the title under which the 'document was presented' did not make it 'Anderson's Constitutions.' And it is also equally certain, that the Grand Lodge of Florida did intend to have 'Anderson's Constitutions' published with our proceedings of that session, for the benefit of the Craft in this jurisdiction. And how it happened, that that 'old fashioned history of Masonry' got into the place of it, cannot now well be ascertained, unless the *Devil* in the printing office had a hand in it. However, Brother Abell will see in our proceedings of the next year, that we succeeded in our purpose of publishing 'Anderson's Constitutions,' the machinations of the *Devil* to the contrary notwithstanding.

"We find little to comment upon in this report, that has not already been well and ably discussed by the committee, save the declaration that 'we are pleased to see that Brother Sayre entertains opinions similar to those expressed by ourselves in our last report relative to that new test introduced by Ohio, which requires that a candidate should express a belief in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, before he can be made a Mason,' which we propose to notice in our review of the proceedings of Texas.

"On the subject of the Grand Lodge of Canada, the committee defer an argument of the question for the present, and no direct action was taken by the Grand Lodge.

CONNECTICUT.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge comes to us in its usual interesting and complete form, from the hands of its efficient and experienced Grand Secretary, Brother E. G. Storer. Last year it did not reach us, and its absence was felt and regretted. The annual communication was held at the Masonic Hall in the city of Hartford, Wednesday, May 13th, 1857. M. W. Wm. L. Brewer, Grand Master, presiding; who delivered an address upon the opening of the Grand Lodge, giving 'a report of his official acts and observations during the past year.' The Worthy Grand Master gives wholesome advice, which we fear is too little regarded in many Lodges, and might be acted upon more rigidly to the improvement of the Craft, in all Lodges. He says:

" 'Lodges should be reminded, that to initiate, pass, and raise candidates is not the great purpose of Masonry, and therefore is not the sole business of the Lodge. Ours is especially a social institution, where brethren meet on a level, to cultivate the better feelings of the heart, and to promote the love and the practice of that morality which is founded in the principles of divine truth. These principles must be understood if they are to be followed and enjoyed.

“ ‘When a Lodge is driven with work to that degree that allows of scarcely anything else, it is evident that some of the chief benefits of our Orders are lost sight of. Another evil consists in the *rapidity* with which the several degrees are conferred. In many cases candidates are hastened so rapidly from one department to another of our Mystic Temple, that they have neither the time nor opportunity to appreciate or even discover the furniture with which they are adorned. Candidates are hurried from one degree to another without any reference to their proficiency. To this I think we may trace the existence of so many careless and indifferent Masons. The less instruction the young Mason receives, the fainter will be his perceptions of the beauty and importance of the great principles which lie at the foundation of the Masonic Institution. The letter and spirit of our ancient regulations required every candidate to be thoroughly instructed in one degree before he is allowed to take another. The question “has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degree,” should not be a mere formula.

“ ‘These things, brethren, you should thoroughly appreciate, and on your return to your various Lodges, each of you should exercise all your influence to correct this evil. I am satisfied *legislation here* will not accomplish it. An earnest, heartfelt desire on the part of a few members of each Lodge to remedy this evil, by *discountenancing* the practice, will accomplish more than any legislation.’

“The Grand Master announced to the Lodge the death of Brother James Ward, since the last annual communication. He says he was Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, more than fifty years ago. He was initiated in the year 1790, and died at his residence in Hartford at the age of ninety years, so that this worthy Ghiblimate has worked in the quarries more than threescore years, and died as he had lived, a true Mason.

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence report the receipt of the official proceedings of twenty-six Grand Lodges, which they have examined and reported upon. Your committee regret that they can only give a few pertinent extracts from this able report. They say :

“ ‘The California committee do not exactly agree with us, in our definition of a Lodge under dispensation. They very pertinently ask, if such a body be “no Lodge,” “in what position are those Masons placed who have received their degrees in such a body, when called upon to answer the inquiry, where they were made?” Perhaps we were not quite explicit enough, on a former occasion, in giving our views of a Lodge under dispensation. It may be and probably is true, that such a body is in some sense a Lodge, at least, so far as the authority to “make Masons” is involved ; but so far as we have been able to discover, the best authorities agree that such a Lodge is not empowered to receive *members*, nor are its officers entitled to installa-

tion. The persons made Masons therein cannot even become members of that particular body, and have no right to vote therein, until the Lodge is duly *chartered*. Every Mason knows that, "a Lodge is a certain number of Masons duly assembled," with the proper implements of the Craft, "*and a charter or warrant empowering them to work.*" Now, as we understand the matter, the dispensation of a Grand Master is *not* such a "charter or warrant," but merely a document of temporary existence, authorizing certain individuals to perform certain acts *till the next meeting of the Grand Lodge*, when all the authority of the instrument comes to an end. If otherwise, why come to the Grand Lodge at all for a *charter*? Why not act perpetually under the dispensation? As to the persons receiving the degrees in a Lodge under dispensation, doubtless they are *Masons*, because the mysteries of Masons have been regularly and lawfully entrusted to them. They may become members of the Lodge on its receiving a charter; and, in case no charter is issued, they may become members of some other Lodge, in the usual way.'

"We hope our California brethren will regard this argument as sufficiently 'explicit,' and cogent enough to remove all doubts on that question. The proceedings of Florida are noticed in very flattering terms. On the question of the Grand Lodge of Canada they say:

"Your committee have had the privilege of reading several able arguments on both sides of the question, in some of which the whole history of Grand Lodge organization has been examined with distinguished ability. That the members of this Grand Lodge, and the Fraternity at large in this State, may have an opportunity to judge for themselves, we have selected the report of our distinguished Brother Brown, of Florida, because it contains a synopsis of the arguments on both sides, and arrives at conclusions in perfect harmony with our own, and because it embodies a more perfect and satisfactory argument than your committee have the time or perhaps the ability to construct for themselves.

"('The argument of the Florida committee was read before the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, by the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, but as it occupies upwards of twenty pages, it is deemed inexpedient to reprint it. It can be found in the Grand Lodge Library (Vol. 103), and is a document worth 'perusing.')—*Note to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.*

"Your committee have also read, with much satisfaction, an elaborate review of this whole question, from the pen of the learned Grand Master of Vermont, M. W. Philip C. Tucker, in which he triumphantly establishes the right of the Fraternity in Canada to throw off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, and to organize a governing Masonic body for themselves.

"From a careful examination of this interesting question, as presented in the able reports above alluded to, your committee are more

strongly convinced than they were when they presented their report to the Grand Lodge last year, that the Grand Lodge of Canada is as legal and legitimate a body as the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, or any other Grand Lodge in the world, and that she is fully entitled to the sympathy and fraternal regard of every other Grand Lodge. Nor do we doubt that every member of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, could they have an opportunity to read what we have read in relation to this matter, would cordially extend the hand of fellowship to our brethren of the Canadian Grand Lodge. Entertaining these views, your committee deem it their duty again to urge upon the Grand Lodge the adoption of the resolution which was rejected at our last annual communication, when our brethren were not in possession of sufficient facts to act intelligently on this important question.'

"The following resolution was unanimously adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has learned with satisfaction, the fact that an independent Grand Lodge has been organized in the Province of Canada ; that we recognize said organization as a legally constituted Grand Lodge, and do cordially welcome her to the great family of American Grand Lodges.'

DELAWARE.

"The Grand Lodge of the State of Delaware held its annual communication in the city of Wilmington, Friday, 27th June, 1856, M. W. Alfred P. Robinson, Grand Master, R. W. Daniel R. Wolfe, Grand Secretary.

"In the large amount of interesting Masonic literature before us, we find nothing embracing more valuable Masonic truths than are contained in the address of Grand Master Robinson, from which we will endeavor to present such a condensed view as the limits prescribed in our report will allow. After acknowledgments of gratitude to the Grand Architect of the Universe for the privilege again to assemble in stated Grand communication, he says : 'At no period in the annals of the Craft has Freemasonry been more prosperous, more firmly rooted in the affections of her votaries, or more efficacious in her purposes of benevolence, than at present.' But he cautions the members of the Grand Lodge that this prosperous condition of the Order is no sure evidence of its strength without the strictest adherence to the ancient rules of the Craft in regard to the admission of members. The very existence of Freemasonry, as an efficient organization, depends upon a rigid observance of the landmark which points out to us the requisite qualifications of the candidate and the preliminaries necessary for his initiation ; and the Lodge which disregards these, or assumes the responsibility to relax them in the least degree, endangers the reputation and the safety of the Fraternity. Neither the wisdom, strength, nor beauty of Freemasonry depends upon the number of names which a

Lodge may be able to present to the Grand Lodge in its annual returns, but in the quality of the material which is added to the moral edifice. Each ashlar, as it is brought up for inspection, should be carefully examined by the Master Workman, and unless found to be sound and safe for the builder's use, should be unhesitatingly rejected. We quote the following paragraphs for the benefit of such Masons as agree with Brother Sayre in the opinion that 'Masonry is not founded on the Bible:'

"Speculative or symbolic Masonry, is a means by which we may secure the full enjoyment of our social relative privileges, and by which we are taught to know and perform our fraternal duties and obligations, the great secret of which lies in a proper use and application of the three principal rounds in our symbolic ladder—Faith, Hope, and Charity. The faith which Freemasonry teaches is the faith of the Bible—hope in immortality and charity to all mankind, but especially towards our brethren. Whether Freemasonry is right or wrong for us—whether it is a good or an evil to us, depends upon the use we may make of these three essentials to the worthy Mason.

"A belief in the existence of a God over all, and faith in His justice and mercy, are necessary prerequisites in the candidate for induction into our sanctuary. * * * * *

"The Bible is bestowed upon us as our rule of faith, and he who abnegates its divinity cannot, within our halls, be allowed to pollute it with his touch. There is no *fidelity* in his right hand, that it should rest upon it, no strength in his left to support it; he has no trust in God, and is without a guide over the path of life; he is without Hope, because she has no foundation upon which to erect her temple in his heart.'

"The M. W. Grand Master notices in a feeling and eloquent manner the death of P. G. M. John McLung, from which we make a short extract:

"Since our last stated Grand communication, it has again pleased Him who holds in His hands the destinies of all created worlds—to chasten us, and to call from earth our highly esteemed and most worthy brother, Past Grand Master John McLung. Whilst the Grand Master above permitted his sojourn amongst us—sincerely devoted to the interests and objects of Masonry—he was ever an active and efficient member of the Craft. Endowed with a kind, amiable and benevolent disposition, he was truly a Mason at heart, and ever ready and willing with heart and hand, to relieve the distressed.'

"The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Grand Master for his able and valuable address, and that the same be published in the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

"There was no report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

GEORGIA.

"The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia was held in the city of Macon, 28th October, 1856, R. W. Arthur Hood, Deputy Grand Master of the 1st District, presiding as Grand Master—R. W. Simry Rose, Grand Secretary.

"R. W. Wm. S. Rockwell, Deputy Grand Master of the 4th District, from the committee appointed to propose a suitable tribute to the memory of the late Grand Master, Wm. C. Dawson, reported the following preamble and resolutions :

"WHEREAS, It has pleased the Almighty Disposer of Events to remove from our earthly temple, to a higher and holier one, as we devoutly trust, our late Grand Master, Most Worshipful Wm. C. Dawson, who for thirteen years has presided over our deliberations, guiding them by his wisdom, controlling them by his firmness, and dignifying them by his manly and Masonic bearing—while we bow in humble submission to His all-wise decree, and acknowledge the solemn importance of the momentous truth that man is born to die—we deem it our Masonic duty to place on record a fitting testimonial of our affection for him as a brother, and our deep and abiding reverence for his memory as a man ; therefore,

"Be it resolved by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, That in the death of our late Grand Master, we have sustained a loss which human wisdom cannot measure. Our onward progress in prosperity has received a check which a close imitation of his bright example can alone enable us to overleap ; our Masonic fabric is weakened by a breach of which the broken column among our mystic emblems will perpetually remind us ; but the living sprig of evergreen which a brother's hand has deposited with his perishable dust in the last home of all the living, with its symbolic teachings, triumphantly assures us that his undying spirit will live forever, as we cheerfully hope, in the realms of a blissful immortality.

"Be it also resolved, That this memorial to our late beloved presiding officer be inserted in a fitting place in the minutes of this Grand communication.'

"And another committee, appointed for the purpose during the session of the Grand Lodge, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted :

"Resolved, That the sum of \$1,200 be, and the same is hereby appropriated by the Grand Lodge, out of any funds now in the treasury not otherwise disposed of, to be expended in the erection of a suitable monument (of white marble) in memory of the Hon. Wm. C. Dawson, deceased, late Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay the same to a committee hereafter to be appointed to superintend the erection of the same.

"Resolved, That a suitable sum be, and the same is hereby appropriated to be expended in the procurement of a life-like portrait of our deceased Grand Master, to be placed in the East of the Masonic Hall of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

"This eminent Mason and distinguished man died at his residence, in the village of Greensborough, in May, 1856; but no official communication of the melancholy occurrence having been made to this Grand Lodge at its last annual communication, no action was taken expressive of its deep sympathy with the brethren of our adjoining sister jurisdiction, and of our sense of their heavy bereavement. They have lost a great man and a great Mason, and they have nobly manifested their high estimation of his worth and their loss.

"Reports were made by the District Deputy Grand Master; and the committee on Foreign Correspondence, by their chairman, Bro. Samuel Lawrence, made a report reviewing the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Lodges. The committee in noticing the proceedings of Iowa, make the following extract from that committee's report:

"Your committee do not see, therefore, how it has come to pass that an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft is not a Mason, not a member of a Lodge, not entitled to take part in a procession, or to be buried with Masonic honors. If such changes have been made in Masonic law, no landmark is thereby removed, what does it require to constitute a landmark? It is not what are landmarks *now*, that we are (not) to remove, but what *were* landmarks in 1721.

"And, in reply, say:

"We cannot fully coincide in all that is implied in that extract. That Entered Apprentices are Masons, none can doubt, and that by ancient usage they were members of Lodges, is undeniable. Art. XXXIX. of the Old Regulations expressly provides, that any new Regulations or alteration *shall* be offered to the perusal of all the brethren before dinner, in writing, even of the youngest *Entered Apprentice*; the approbation and consent of *all the Brethren present*, being absolutely necessary to make the same binding and obligatory." It was only in this country, and here not generally, if we are correctly informed, until after the Baltimore Convention in 1843, that Entered Apprentices were ousted of this right by a resolution, that the business of the Lodge should be conducted in the third degree only. And now the practice is nearly, if not quite general, we believe, not to regard a brother as a member of a Lodge until he has been raised, and has signed the by-laws of the Lodge. We think this is all wrong, and approve of the Iowa resolutions which restore Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts to many of their rights. They have ever been held to strict a responsibility as Masons by the Lodges, and we conceive it against right, reason, and justice, as well as Masonry, to exact responsibility where there is no privilege. But, with all this, we do not know that the right to join in the public procession has ever been denied to Entered Apprentices. Masonic law, then, is null which prohibits them from so doing. The case is different with regard to Masonic burial and funeral processions. These last form an exception to the general rule.

"We are not able to ascertain the antiquity of this exception, but

in the earliest form of "the ceremony observed at funerals according to *ancient custom*" which we have seen, and which is that furnished by Preston, it is laid down, that "no Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order," * * * "unless he has been advanced to the *third Degree* of Masonry, and from this restriction there can be no exception. *Fellow Crafts or Apprentices are not entitled to the funeral obsequies.*"

"But it may be objected, this does not debar them from joining in funeral procession. We think a moment's reflection will convince that it does. For the Lodge, before the procession is formed, and to conduct the private ceremonies in the lodge-room, is opened in the *third degree*, and after the interment, is *closed in the third degree*. This alone would preclude the presence of entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts. Besides, every Master Mason who will recur to the Funeral Ceremony itself, will see that it is impossible for Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts to understand the meaning of either the private ceremony in the lodge-room or that which is had at the grave.'

"We do not so understand it that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts have been *ousted of any of their rights*, or that any LANDMARKS, in respect to those degrees, have been removed. We think the difficulties of this question can be resolved in a nut-shell. Entered Apprentices are *Masons* and *members* of an Entered Apprentice's Lodge, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of that degree. But *further they cannot go, without the regular pass*. When regularly passed, they are Fellow Crafts, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of that degree. But they can go no further until they are regularly raised and then they are Masons indeed. Now, we see here no deprivation of the rights of any. Each participates in the work and ceremonies, and enjoys the benefits appertaining to their respective degrees. What is understood by a procession? Not merely the falling into a line of march. Whatever Masons *masonically do*, must be done in order. In all Masonic processions, every member has his appropriate place assigned under the direction of the officers conducting the ceremonies. In processions which are required to be formed in a Master Mason's Lodge, such as funerals, &c., of course none but Master Masons can have a place assigned them. Those processions in which Masons of all degrees can join, such as celebrations, &c., are formed in an Entered Apprentice's Lodge, and in accordance with the established order of Masonic processions, the place for Entered Apprentices is in front. All processions must be formed in the Lodge, proceed out from it, and return back into it, in the same order. The reason why Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts cannot always join in Masonic procession must be so obvious to all intelligent, reflecting Master Masons, as to need no argument, and we think equally so are the reasons why the '*business* of the Lodge should be conducted in the third degree only'—that is of course, the *business* properly belonging to that degree. But it does not follow that there is *no business* in the other degrees

It is, we admit, a practice in many Lodges never to open in any but the *third* degree, unless to *make* a Mason—and if, when they are made, they were well made, the custom would not be so reprehensible. How often is it, that when the lower degrees are opened, it is merely to run the candidate through in haste—perhaps several, through both degrees in the same evening, without even giving a lecture. But they are told that they must converse with some well-informed brother, who will be as willing to give as they will be to receive instruction. What has transpired the night before has perhaps left as much impression on the mind of the initiated, the next morning, as would a feverish dream. They apply to some brother for instruction, but he, having probably been made in the same way, replies, ‘Oh! there is nothing in these lower degrees; you can’t understand anything about Masonry till you get the Master’s degree.’ Consequently the object is to get that degree as soon as possible, and never to go near the Lodge again, until called on to take another step. And when they get the Master’s degree, they know very little more of Masonry than they did before; but then they are all on a par—‘there is not much in it, but then it is a very good thing for a fellow who wants to travel’—and they soon become *non-affiliated*. Now these are mortifying truths, and fully justify our respected brothers of the Georgia committee when they say, ‘and now the practice is nearly, if not quite general, we believe, not to regard a brother as a member of a Lodge until he has been raised, and signed the by-laws of the Lodge;’ and many who have done so, have as little title to be called Masons. We see evils of this character complained of in the proceedings of every Grand Lodge that come under our notice. The *meetings* of Lodges in these days, are regarded as for no other purpose but to make Masons—that is to increase the number of their members, and the amount of their funds. And if it is understood that there are no candidates to be received, initiated, or passed, it is ten chances to one if there will be any *Lodge*, even on a regular night. Such was not the case in times gone by, which we fear will never return, when Freemasons were fewer and not so easily made. Then the custom was on every regular Lodge night to open first in the Entered Apprentice’s degree, and all the members were expected to attend, and did attend, if within their *cable tow*, from the oldest Master Mason to the youngest Entered Apprentice. They all met upon the level. The old Masons conversed freely with the youngest Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craftsmen, calling them Brother —, and Brother —. They never initiated or passed without a lecture. And if there was not a candidate to be initiated, a lecture was given before the Lodge in that degree was closed.

“On the Canada question, the committee say:

“Your committee will only say in reference to these, that they feel for their brethren in the Canadas, and heartily sympathize with them in the many inconveniences they suffer, and we hope that at no distant

day the mother Lodge of England will graciously take such action on their complaints as will relieve them of their difficulties without resort to rebellious measures.'

"We have not been favored with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Georgia for 1857. During the session of this Grand Lodge, we had the pleasure of an introduction to a brother from that jurisdiction, the Rev. CREED FULTON, who gave the committee a few loose sheets of their late proceedings, but they were too imperfect to afford us any information of what our brethren of Georgia are doing. Brother Fulton, who visited our Grand Lodge in company with Brother Robert Morris, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, put into the hands of the committee 'A Catalogue of the Officers and Students of the Southern Masonic Female College, at Covington, Georgia,' of which he is the President and Professor of Moral Science. This institution, we learn, was founded by an endowment, placed permanently under the control of the Grand Lodge of the State. A certain number of the daughters of Masons in indigent circumstances, or their orphans, are selected to be educated at this institution as teachers. The Masons of Georgia have acted nobly in the discharge of this responsible trust, and in their devotion to the success of this nursery for the culture and improvement of the fairest and most lovely portion of God's work, who, in the economy of creation, were designed to wield an influence over society for good or for evil in the proportion as their minds are highly and virtuously cultivated.

"Brother Fulton delivered before the Grand Lodge an eloquent impromptu address on the subject of this institution, and his system of management and instruction, and satisfied us that the Fraternity of Georgia are fortunate in having at the head of the institution a brother who is so peculiarly well qualified for the station he occupies, as well as deeply impressed with the solemn and delicate responsibility of the charge which rests on him.

IOWA.

"We have the very excellent report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, at its annual communication held in the city of Iowa Tuesday, the 2d of June, 1857. M. W. John F. Sandford, M.D., Grand Master, R. W. T. S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

"The M. W. Grand Master, in his address, speaks very encouragingly of the condition of Masonry in his jurisdiction. He says:

"'Much as I am disposed, however, to congratulate you on this happy state of things, and to rejoice in that disposition of men which impels them toward virtuous affiliations, there is, in the operations of the last year, a higher and better cause of gratulation. Whilst almost every combination of men seeks to extend its influence, and enlarge its power by numerical extension, Freemasonry rests its hopes upon the personal integrity of its votaries, and their devotion to the true

interests of humanity. Its tribunals have been faithful to its principles, and have with one voice repudiated the idea that number in itself was an element of strength. It is the knowledge that these ideas have had a practical illustration within our borders during the past year that excites my pride, and justifies the opinion that the Fraternity in Iowa has never exhibited a more healthy and hopeful condition than it does this day. My correspondence with the Lodges in this jurisdiction, now numbering over one hundred, has been very extended, and I can testify to an unusual care on their part respecting the character of those who have sought admission into our mysteries.'

"On the subject of 'A uniform system of Work,' he reminds the Grand Lodge of the fact that, by a provision of the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, it is required that '*the Grand Master shall cause the work and lectures in the first three degrees of Masonry to be exhibited before the Grand Lodge at each annual communication,*' and remarks, that 'he does not recollect a single instance in which this requirement has been complied with.' But he informs the Grand Lodge, that he had issued 'a circular to all the Lodges in the State, requiring them to send a full and skillful representation to this Grand Lodge,' and notifying them that he should give to this part of his duties an absolute preference to all others, and concludes this portion of his address with these reflections :

"I am not so vain, brethren, of my own abilities, as to suppose that I am capable of instructing the mature and experienced minds of many who now surround the Grand East. *There is beauty and science enough connected with the institution of Masonry to chasten the pride or subdue the vanity of any man, no matter how versatile or towering his intellect, who truly seeks to penetrate its solemn mysteries.* But one thing I shall try to accomplish ; that is to convince my brethren of the Grand Lodge that I have a sincere and heartfelt desire to promote that fraternal unity throughout this jurisdiction, which constitutes here as elsewhere the crowning glory of our most excellent institution. Theatrical gesticulation and rhetorical flourishes, much less the introduction of levity, shall constitute no part of my method of instruction ; but in everything that is done, I shall endeavor to merit, and will no doubt receive, the charitable criticism of those who shall engage with me in this important undertaking.'

"The M. W. Grand Master takes notice, very appropriately we think, of the important services of the R. W. Grand Secretary. He says :

"I cannot omit, in justice to my own feelings, to express my gratitude to our R. W. Grand Secretary, Brother Parvin, for his valuable aid in the labors of this jurisdiction during the past year—aid, in fact, without which my own incapacity to meet the requirements of this office would have been still more apparent. Nor can I, without viola-

ting a sense of duty, fail to say, that the efficiency of our worthy Brother as Secretary of this Grand Lodge for many years, has done as much to give it respectability abroad and prosperity at home, as all other causes combined.

“ ‘It is almost impossible to conceive the amount of labor and attention it requires, to fill ably and faithfully, as he has done, the office of Grand Secretary, or the great and irreparable injury an inefficiency in the performance of its duties would inflict upon this jurisdiction. I therefore take pleasure in making this acknowledgment.’

“ We took occasion, in our last report, to notice approvingly, with some of the other Grand Lodge reports, the statistical tables prepared by Brother Parvin, to which he replies :

“ ‘The statistical tables appended to our proceedings for a few years past have been much more full than those of any Grand Lodge in the Union (indeed a large number of the Grand Secretaries publish *none at all*). And, if we are not mistaken, we were the first to publish anything of the kind. In our first report, in 1844, we commenced the labor, and an arduous one it is, of collecting in a small compass statistics of a special and general character and interest, and at that time we could find nothing on the subject as a guide.

“ ‘Since then we have seen whole tables, upon which we had bestowed much care and labor, republished in other proceedings, without a word of credit, and then highly commended in the Masonic periodicals of the country, their authorship ascribed to our copyists.’

“ The ‘Masonic periodicals’ may have been mistaken in regard to the authorship of Brother Parvin’s statistical tables, but we think that could hardly be the case with any of the Grand Secretaries. We acknowledge that we would be glad to see them more generally adopted, and the author duly credited for them.

“ The M. W. Grand Master announces the death of R. W. Past Grand Warden Thomas Williams, who, he says, ‘since our last communication, has exchanged the labors and cares of the earthly for the glory and peace of the celestial Lodge above.’ In noticing the death of our distinguished brother, Dr. E. K. Kane, he says : ‘Whether in the polished and noble circles of Europe, amid the arid sands of Africa, under the burning sun of Asia, or battling with the elements in the ice-bound regions of America, that quality of his heart and those capacities of mind which impelled him to sacrifice everything for the good of his fellow-men blazed forth in characters of living light, and now constitutes for us a guide in the path of duty and a great example in the pursuits of life.’ And we have occasion to sympathize with our beloved Brother Sanford in his *own* bereavement. He says : ‘This has also been to me a year of deep affliction, and has left upon my heart a sense of sorrow which succeeding years can never wipe away. It has pleased the Almighty Father, whose name be blessed forever, to

take from me, and from the pledges of our mutual love who share with me this afflicting calamity, my beloved, ever faithful and gentle companion.' To this appeal the heart of every true husband and father will respond with deep emotion.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is by Brother Theo. S. Parvin, its chairman, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand Lodges with great judgment and force, and notices the proceedings of this Grand Lodge in a kind and fraternal manner. In copying a portion of our remarks on the subject of 'Masonic Colleges,' &c., we observe that the printer (we suppose) has made a typographical error. It reads, 'promotes *disease*,' &c. It should read 'discord.'

"We could extract largely and profitably from this report if our limits would justify it, but we will close with the following in regard to Canada :

"'During the year we have received a circular protest from the Provincial Grand Lodge of "Canada West," but if there be any logic in their position, or of those Grand Lodges who sustain it, the protest should have come from the Grand Lodge of England.

"'Having in good faith hailed the Grand Lodge of Canada as a sovereign among us, we invite her to the customary fraternal correspondence, which we shall be ever ready to extend on our part, as heretofore.'

"And to which, we respectfully think, all good and true Ancient York Freemasons should respond, So MOTE IT BE !

ILLINOIS.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, which held its annual communication in the city of Springfield, Tuesday, 6th October, 1857, reached us since our report was written, although we have placed it in its alphabetical order—M. W. James H. Hibbard, Grand Master, presiding, R. W. Harman G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary. The address of the Grand Master presents an account of his stewardship, occupying ten pages, in which he alludes to family afflictions, in the death of two members of his family—one of whom is the Hon. John Bailhache—with whom he also announces the death of R. W. William A. Dickey, Past Junior Grand Warden ; Brother Z. P. Cabinness, 'though not a Past Grand Officer, yet a worthy and zealous Mason, whose voice has often been heard in our meetings and listened to with pleasure and profit,' and Brother Samuel Hutton, Past Grand Marshal. Notwithstanding the worthy Grand Master may be 'young in years,' he indulges in some very sage and profound reflections, some of which we beg to present here :

"'Let each one of us examine our own hearts, and ask ourselves the following questions : Have we lived up to the true principles of Masonry ? Have we exercised a spirit of *Brotherly Love* toward each and every member of our Lodge, or have we suffered jealousy and envy to

usurp the place of that heaven-born attribute, and the first great tenet of our Order? Have we been called upon to relieve the distressed, and minister to the wants of the poor and needy, and, standing upon the top round of the theological ladder, contributed to the relief of our worthy distressed brothers, their widows and orphans, as far as their necessities required, and our abilities permitted? or have we turned a deaf ear to the melting appeals of charity, and, like the Pharisee, passed by on the other side? Have we endeavored to regulate our conduct by the Divine attribute Truth, the foundation of every virtue? To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry. Have we been influenced by this principle? Has hypocrisy and deceit been unknown among us? Has sincerity and plain dealing distinguished us, and the heart and tongue been joined in promoting each other's welfare, and rejoicing in each other's prosperity? Has temperance been our constant practice and a due restraint upon our affections and passions, and freed our minds from the allurements of vice? Have we exercised that noble and steady purpose of mind, and not suffered any of those valuable secrets, with which we have been entrusted, to be extorted from us by force or otherwise? Has prudence taught us to regulate our lives and actions agreeably to the dictates of reason, and been our peculiar characteristic, not only while in the Lodge, but when abroad in the world? Has justice been our standard, and have we rendered unto every man his just due without distinction? has it been our invariable practice, and have we not deviated from the minutest principle thereof? Have we regarded the volume of the Sacred Law as the Great Light of our profession, considered it as the unerring standard of truth and justice, and regulated our lives by the Divine precepts it contains? Have we learned from it the important duties we owe to God, our neighbors and ourselves? In short, has Temperance chastened, Fortitude supported, Prudence directed, and Justice been the guide of all our actions? And have we been especially careful to maintain, in their fullest splendor, those truly Masonic ornaments—*Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth*?

“Let us ponder well the above questions, and each one answer them in the silent recesses of his own heart.”

“And in conclusion he says :

“It would be unpardonable in me to close this feeble and imperfect report without expressing my sincere thanks to the brethren of the Grand Lodge, for the honors conferred upon me from time to time, and especially for the *honorable and responsible* position I now occupy—one which I little thought to attain in so short a time, and while so young in years, yet to one which I should always look back with feelings of pride, if you in your wisdom should render the verdict, “Your *official acts* have been approved, and you have merited the honor thus conferred.” * * * * Our Institution boasts its origin in the earliest ages of the world, and it retains its ancient laws incorruptible,

its venerable rites and expressive symbols unchanged, and its primeval ceremonies entire. The stupendous pyramids which were raised, the lofty obelisks inscribed, and the magnificent temples built by Masonic hands, have yielded to the ravages of time, but the institution itself has survived their overthrow, and outlived their glory. It will continue still, and flourish till

“ ‘ The great globe itself,
And all which it inhabit, be destroyed,
And like the baseless fabric of a vision,
Leave not a wreck behind.’ ”

“ The committee appointed on the address of the M. W. Grand Master say :

“ ‘ Your committee may indeed remark that notwithstanding his requent allusions to youthfulness and inexperience, it is apparent to all that he is possessed of an *old head*, a *large heart*, a *watchful* and *vigilant eye* for the welfare and perpetuity of Masonry in our jurisdiction. And your committee feel assured that when they mete out to him the plaudit “ Well done thou good and faithful servant,” they but give utterance to the sentiment of every Masonic heart.

“ ‘ In the allusion to his heavy family afflictions and sad bereavements, your committee deeply sympathize with him, and feel that in the death of his old and valued friend and relative, Brother John Bailhache, he has not only sustained a great loss, but that the Fraternity has, at the same time, lost one of its brightest ornaments.’ ”

“ The committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Lodges, including the Phillips Grand Lodge of New York, and the proceedings of three Grand Lodges reported in a ‘supplement.’ And after republishing in full the proceedings of the ‘Universal Masonic Congress’ from the report of the New York committee, and copious extracts on other subjects, under various heads, they take a *bird’s-eye* view of the Grand Lodge proceedings, and conclude with recommending the adoption of sundry resolutions, one of which recognizes the Canada Grand Lodge in these words :

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Illinois cordially extend to the Grand Lodge of Canada the right hand of fellowship, and a hearty welcome into the American constellation of Grand Lodges.

INDIANA.

“ The Grand Lodge of this State held its annual communication in the city of Indianapolis, 25th May, 1857, M. W. A. C. Downey, Grand Master, presiding, R. W. Francis King, Grand Secretary. The Grand Master’s address is confined to the affairs of his jurisdiction, but we find in it some views which are worthy the attention of all other jurisdictions. He says, for instance :

“ ‘ Too much legislation by the Grand Lodge, and especially the in-

introduction or attempt to introduce new regulations, or to change old ones by a mere resolution, hastily drawn and passed without consideration, ought to be guarded against. And yet, when it is necessary to legislate, it should be promptly and fearlessly done. I think it was in one of the Grecian republics, where the laws were enacted in an assembly of people, that the person who would propose a new law or the change of an old one, was required to go into the assembly with a rope about his neck, so that if the proposition which he offered was not accepted and adopted by the people, he might at once be hung up by the neck. The spirit of this regulation should prevail in the Grand Lodge, and no one without considering it well, should propose important changes in our laws or additions to them.'

"He mentions the subject of a contemplated history of Masonry in Indiana, which was confided to the late Brother E. Denning, by whose death the project has been suspended, and advises some action upon the subject of its execution. We, of this jurisdiction, are in a like situation by the death of our P. G. M. Thomas Douglas, to whose charge a history of Masonry in Florida was confided.

"Dispensations had been granted since the last annual communication for fourteen new Lodges.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is by Brother S. D. Bayliss, its chairman, and *briefly* reviews the proceedings of some thirty-odd Grand Lodges so briefly that we find very little room, at least, for the use of the '*scissors*.' Our brother chairman, we suspect, is a *business* man. We have some recollection that 'amid the press of private business' he had to apologize for the *length* of his last year's report, but promised to do better next time. The worthy chairman considers that as such duties cannot be performed without a large consumption of time, compensation should be allowed, and, if adequate, fewer excuses would be made. Well, we think our brother is wise in that suggestion, and we have no doubt that there are others who agree with him. He compliments our last year's report, but, noticing our dissent from the practice of Grand Lodges going into committee of the whole, he says: 'It is a secret of vast importance in life to know that we are ignorant, but the brother betrays himself when he gives us impliedly to understand that his judgment in respect to the question spoken of is infallible. We think, at least, there is a wide margin for difference, and that he will never be too old to learn.' Such has ever been our devout prayer; for, when we become too old to learn, life will have no charm for us. We do not know the age of our learned brother, but, if we were to judge from what we have seen of his reports, we would not accord to him the advantages of many years, nor would we suppose that the idea has ever entered his mind that length of years could increase his store of knowledge.

"We have to notice the inaccuracy of our brother's quotations. The committee, in quoting from our report on the Canada Grand Lodge,

make us to say, 'The Freemasons of Canada are not only fully justified in *surrendering* their allegiance,' &c. We said '*sundering*.' There are several other inaccuracies in a very short quotation, which we do not deem of importance sufficient now to point out.

"In noticing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York in regard to the Canada Grand Lodge, the committee say: 'the Lodge refused to recognize the Grand Lodge of Canada as a legally constituted body, on which your committee desire to say, that no obstinacy on the part of even all the Lodges within our national jurisdiction which may be manifested on such merely technical grounds, will for any considerable period be effectual. Public sentiment has much to do with it, and the spirit and genius of our beloved government is awakened in our hearts and sways in our mind when we consider this question.'

"We believe that there is here as much sound sense expressed in a true Masonic spirit, as can be found in the same space anywhere. The Grand Lodge of Indiana, adopted resolutions recognizing the Grand Lodge of Canada at its previous session.

KANSAS.

"We have the proceedings of this young member of our sisterhood at an adjourned meeting of the Grand Lodge in the city of Leavenworth on the 14th day of July, 1856. On which occasion the M. W. Grand Master, Brother Richard R. Reese, in a short address, says, 'On the 17th of March last the Grand Lodge of Kansas was fully organized; an anniversary which I fondly hope our children's children will proudly remember and celebrate.' And on the 20th day of October, 1856, the annual communication was held in the same city, M. W. Richard R. Reese, Grand Master, presiding, R. W. Charles Munde, Grand Secretary, *pro tem*. The Grand Master's address is fraternal, and fraught with wholesome admonitions, and closes thus: 'May the God of Heaven smile on our deliberations, temper all our thoughts with calmness, lead us in the way of truth and virtue, divest our hearts and consciences of vice and error, and guide us by His holy spirit here, and when our earthly labors shall have ended, call us to a Heavenly refreshment in our final home, where we may meet in glorious communication before the holy throne of that Grand Master who rules the destinies of worlds.' A report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented and read, by Rev. Brother Leander Ker, its chairman, which reports the receipt of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana only.

"The reverend chairman of the committee says in regard to the political condition of the Territory, 'This state of things, my brethren, is too well known to you all, and too painfully fresh in your memories to need repetition here. But we trust and hope these evil days are gone to return no more, and that peace, harmony and brotherly love, will

take the place of discord and strife permanently. And it cannot fail to be most gratifying to the hearts of all good Masons to learn, that so far as is known, the brethren during all the excitement in the Territory have been found on the side of law and order.'

"Adverting to the proceedings received, he says :

"In the reports of those three States we find but comparatively few cases of discipline, and chiefly for minor offenses, and which were happily disposed of ; and this was done by the proper exercise of that great and distinctive feature and principle of Masonry : "*Charity*," "*Gentleness*," and "*Brotherly Kindness*." And let me, my brethren, as is my duty as a Mason and your Chaplain, urge upon you the constant and impressive consideration and practice of this great and omnipotent principle, the grand characteristic of our Order. And let me remind and assure you, that if these fail in reforming the erring and offending, no other means will succeed. Do you want a proof of this ? that proof I will give. It is the great means our Heavenly Father employs in reconciling an alienated and offending world unto Himself. And what has broken up and divided the Christian Churches into so many conflicting fragments ? Was it charity ? No, verily ; but the want of it. It is love alone that conquers [the] human heart and reclaims the erring mind. And this is the tie that has for thousands of years bound Masons together in bonds stronger than iron and steel. Men of all climes, lands, and nations have felt it, and still feel it, and bow to its invincible power. But sever this bond, or cast it away, and then you will see the glorious temple of Masonry shattered into a thousand fragments, and Masons of different States and Territories as well as nations, encountering and assailing one another with that rancorous malignity that characterizes the religious parties of the world.

"As illustrative of the power, unity, and universality of Masonry, we have embodied two facts that have recently come to our knowledge.

"The first, given to me at my residence by a worthy brother Mason and a worthy minister of the Methodist Church, who had been many years a Missionary among the Chippewaya Indians and other tribes in the British possessions. He told me that among the Chippewayans he found many Masons, and was himself in their Lodges ; that all their signs, grips, and passwords were the same as ours ; and that they were consistent and exemplary as men and Christians in their conduct, and that they could not tell him when and by whom Masonry was introduced among them ; that it was beyond the memory of their fathers.

"The second fact is from the pen of a British officer, who served with distinction in the Crimea, and is himself a Mason. Being much among the Turks and in Constantinople, he found many Masons among these people, and was in some of their Lodges, that they worked as we do, and that with some immaterial difference, their signs, grips, and

and passwords are the same as ours, but he could not find among them any higher than the Royal Arch.'

"In this organization we recognize a *little leaven* which will work a change in the whole community and accomplish more in the promotion of peace and harmony in that beautiful portion of our Federal domain, than all the politicians and soldiers that have ever been sent there.

"We tender to our sister of Kansas a fraternal greeting ; and a cordial welcome into the circle of American Grand Lodges.

KENTUCKY.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge was received just as your committee were closing the labors of this report, and consequently they will not be able to give it the consideration its importance claims. The Grand Lodge held its annual communication in the city of Lexington, Monday, 12th October, 1857, M. W. Theodore N. Wise, Grand Master, R. W. J. M. S. McCorcle, Grand Secretary. The address of the Grand Master claims our admiration for its comprehensive views, and classic and flowing style. But we can at this time only notice the subject of Masonic jurisprudence, which he ably discusses, and in which we entirely agree, notwithstanding a committee of the Grand Lodge reported adversely to his views. The Grand Master says: 'During my term of office, many questions of Masonic jurisprudence have been submitted to me, all of which I have endeavored to answer with an eye single to the honor of our well loved Order and a due observance of the ancient landmarks—amongst which is the action of Excelsior Lodge, No. 258, held in the city of Louisville, in the case of Brother John H. Howe.' In this case, Howe was expelled by Excelsior Lodge, the proceedings in which date were set aside by the Grand Lodge and a new trial granted. Upon the new trial he was acquitted by his Lodge, but the Master of the Lodge refused him membership, whereupon he appealed to the Grand Master, who decided, that, having been acquitted by his Lodge on the new trial, he had not forfeited his membership, and ordered that the Lodge accord to him his rights ; which the Lodge refused to do, and thereupon he appealed to the Grand Lodge, and the Select Committee on that portion of the Grand Master's address 'relative to the case of John H. Howe' made a long report, based upon article 65 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, which provides that 'whenever this Grand Lodge shall *reverse* or *abrogate* the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, &c., he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled without its unanimous consent ;' and then they recite a case which they regard as authority, and conclude that they are 'impelled to dissent from his (the Grand Master's) opinion in the case of Excelsior Lodge.' Now, with due deference

to the intelligence of the committee, we do not see that this 'case of Excelsior Lodge' comes at all within the provisions of the 65th article of the Constitution. The Grand Lodge neither *reversed* nor *abrogated* 'the decision of the subordinate Lodge,' but sent it back for a *new trial*; and Excelsior Lodge, in obeying the mandate of the Grand Lodge and proceeding to another trial, placed the whole proceedings *de novo*, and Howe stood as if no proceedings had ever been had—simply under charges—and, when acquitted by his own peers, he stood as pure and as full in his membership as any other member of the Lodge. If the case of Wilby was a precedent, it could not rule the justice of this case, as one act of injustice, in any code of morals, cannot justify another, more especially among Masons, where justice should be dispensed upon the level and tried by the square. 'But Brother Martin offered the following resolution, as a substitute for the report of the committee: *Resolved*, That the decision of our Grand Master T. N. Wise, in the case of Excelsior Lodge against John H. Howe, be and the same is affirmed by this Grand Lodge;' and which, to the credit of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, was adopted against the precedent cited.

"Two other cases, involving the same principle, occurred, which we will present in the words of the Grand Master:

"'Another case of vital interest occurred in Lewis Lodge, held in Portland, which was submitted to my official action, to determine the power, if any, of Past Masters of Lodges. At a stated meeting of Lewis Lodge, which, by order of the W. Master, the members were summoned to attend, it was found there were only four members present and one visitor. No Master, Warden, or any of the officers were present. A brother, a Past Master, and member of the Lodge, were present, who took the East, appointing proxies to the West and South, and proceeded to open a Master's Lodge, and transact business without the records of the Lodge in their possession, granting himself, the Wardens and several brethren who were absent, dimits from Lewis Lodge. Upon an appeal from the W. Master of said Lodge, I declared in my official capacity, the acts of said brethren illegal and of no effect.'

"After some comments upon this case the Grand Master goes on to state:

"'At this point I beg respectfully to report to you the action of Robert Burns Lodge, No. 163, held in the city of Newport. At a called meeting, to confer degrees upon those duly elected to receive them, the Master and Senior Warden were absent. The Junior Warden occupied the Chair, and proceeded to confer the Fellow Craft's degree upon two brethren. Two or more Past Masters were present, and protested against the power exercised by the Junior Warden, claiming, that in the absence of the other officers, it was the Junior Warden's duty to have invited them to confer the degrees, and addressed me a note requesting my views upon the subject. In my reply, I expressed views identical with those just read in your hearing. Dissatisfaction

still continuing, I was, by action of the Lodge, invited to visit them. Upon hearing a full statement of the facts, I affirmed the decision before given, and remarked, that so far from the Brother Junior Warden having violated any rule of Masonry, so far as known to me, his ability and willingness to confer the degree merited their thanks. Upon the next meeting of the Lodge, the Master was in the chair, and denied the correctness of my views, pronouncing the action of the Junior Warden unmasonic, and therefore proceeded to censure him in open Lodge, and in such terms as to cause great confusion in the Lodge; whereupon he (the Master) arose in his seat, taking the charter of the Lodge, declaring the Lodge closed until the meeting of this Grand Lodge, without ceremony of any kind, and left the lodge-room. Some eight or nine members determined to prefer charges against the Master. Upon the presentation of the charges to me, I proceeded, in accordance with the resolution passed at our last annual meeting, directing the Secretary of Robert Burns Lodge to issue a summons, in writing, to the members and officers of his Lodge, and to give the accused a copy of the charges, with the specifications, to hold a meeting and have such action as might be proper; and, after the Lodge had met and appointed its committee to investigate the matter, they decided, by a large majority, that he (the Master) was not guilty of the charges preferred, thus virtually denying the authority of your Grand Master upon one of the plainest Masonic laws. I felt it to be my bounden duty to call your careful attention to this subject, that such a precedent might be established as would prevent similar occurrences in the future.'

"In the case of 'Lewis Lodge, held in Portland,' there does not appear to have been any action by the Grand Lodge. We respectfully think, with the M. W. Grand Master, that it is a 'case of vital interest,' and that some expression of opinion, at least, should have been made by the Grand Lodge. The conduct of the Past Master, in the absence of the Master of the Lodge and both Wardens, 'who took the East, appointing proxies to the West and South, and proceeded to open a Master's Lodge,' &c., was an outrage upon all Masonic authority and order which should have received the severest rebuke. A Lodge cannot be opened without the presence, at least, of one of the first three officers to whom the charter is granted, and who alone are its proper custodians. Past Masters, as Masonry is now regulated, have no more authority in a Lodge than any other of its members, except by courtesy. Even under the *Old Regulations*, compiled in 1720, when it was said 'the absent Master's authority reverts to the last Master then present,' it expressly provides, 'though he cannot act until the said Senior Warden has once congregated the Lodge, or, in his absence, the Junior Warden.'

"In the case of Robert Burns Lodge, No. 163, the special commit-

tee made a report and presented sundry resolutions, which were referred back to the committee with instructions, and finally the whole subject was disposed of by the adoption of the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the decision of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 163, acquitting John Kline of the charge and specifications preferred against him in said Lodge, be reversed, and that said John Kline be expelled from said Lodge, and from all the rights and privileges of Masonry ; and that Robert Burns Lodge, No. 163, be reprimanded by the M. W. Grand Master in writing, and that said Lodge be required to enter said reprimand upon their records.

"We respectfully think the errors in the proceedings in this case are, *first*, in the Lodge undertaking to try its own Master during his Mastership, and, *secondly*, in the Grand Lodge reversing the decision of the subordinate Lodge. The Grand Lodge should have set aside the whole proceedings of Robert Burns Lodge as irregular and unauthorized, and have appointed a committee of the Grand Lodge to prefer charges against John Kline, to be regularly tried before the Grand Lodge, as a proper example as well as a precedent in other cases.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges in the United States, besides the Grand Lodge of Canada and other Masonic documents, the largest amount of Masonic matter that we have ever known to accumulate in one year for the investigation of a Corresponding Committee, and with much ability and judgment has the duty been performed, presenting one of the best reports that has come under our observation, and comprising a volume of near three hundred pages, well got up, with a tabular statement of statistics of all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and other useful tables and a general index. We regret our inability, at this late period, to take a more particular notice of these proceedings. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was prepared by Brother J. M. S. McCorkle, the Grand Secretary, as we understand from Brother Rob. Morris the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky who visited this Grand Lodge during its session, bringing with him a name known and cherished among the Fraternity everywhere, but leaving behind him a host of friends who admire him personally for the endowments of his mind, and love him for the virtues of his heart, and who will continue to offer up the incense of prayer to the GREAT GRAND MASTER for the preservation of his life and usefulness.

"A special committee made a very impressive report on the occasion of the death of Past Grand Master Brother Willis Stewart, of Louisville ; Brother Jno. D. McClure, of Overton ; and Brother Jesse Edmondson, of Hickman.

"On the Canada question, the committee say : 'So far as your committee are informed, the action of the various Grand Lodges is as fol-

lows: She has been recognized as legitimate by the Grand Lodges of Ireland, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, and Connecticut.' To which we add Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, North Carolina, Ohio, and South Carolina. The only Grand Lodges that have refused recognition are Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Alabama, Georgia, and Virginia. All the others sympathize, but delay action.

LOUISIANA.

"The forty-fifth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana was held in the city of New Orleans, Monday, the 9th February, 1857. M. W. Wm. M. Perkins, Grand Master, R. W. S. G. Risk, Grand Secretary. The M. W. Grand Master in his address, remarks in a truly fraternal spirit: 'The condition of Masonry in Louisiana, if not altogether satisfactory, is probably better than it has been for many years. To some there may appear to be an abatement in zeal, and the amount of work done (technically speaking) may be less than that of previous years. But I am convinced that there has been a gradual improvement in material, more caution and care exercised, and, consequently better work. The use of the pruning-knife may have diminished the number of our Lodges and members; but if the tree shall be thereby rendered more healthy and vigorous, we shall be better off. It becomes us to maintain good order and healthy discipline, and so to manage our affairs that the institution shall command the respect of those whose opinions are worth something, and whose accession would be beneficial to us and to society. Then as we grow in numbers we shall grow in strength, which is not always the case, as our own experience has shown.' And if the practical application of the great Masonic principles of CHARITY, 'Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth' be any evidence of 'improvement in material,' we should unhesitatingly say, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana stands in advance of all the other Grand Lodges. He calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to 'Louisiana Relief Lodge' of New Orleans, and urges them 'to encourage and foster it, that it may be continued and preserved as an illustration as *practical* Masonry, worthy of imitation by our Lodges generally,' and says:

"It affords me much pleasure to bring to your notice the action of the Grand Lodges of Connecticut and Texas, in reference to Louisiana Relief Lodge, which will appear at length in the report of that Lodge. Our brethren of these Grand Lodges seem to have taken a greater interest in its proceedings than other Grand Lodges have done, and not only return thanks for the assistance rendered to members of their jurisdiction, but give more substantial proof of their appreciation of this exhibition of fraternal feeling by contribution to our Relief Lodge, the former, one hundred dollars, and requesting her subordinates to follow the example by contributing such amounts from their funds and individual contributions as may be convenient; the latter, we are informed, has also made a contribution, but to what amount we know not."

"He notices in very appropriate terms, the death of Brother Wm. Theodore Balistier, Grand Steward, who died after a short illness in the city of Washington, on the 5th of July last, and was buried by our brethren of the District of Columbia.

"We observe that the Grand Secretary in his report says:

"As soon after your adjournment last year as I could prepare the copy, I had printed agreeable to resolution, fifteen hundred copies of the Proceedings, which were promptly transmitted to the subordinate Lodges of this jurisdiction, to the several Grand bodies of the United States, and to those of foreign jurisdictions with whom we are in fraternal correspondence, as well as to all the Masonic magazines, and many distinguished brethren of other jurisdictions who have written for them. In addition, every individual member of our own jurisdiction who has requested a copy has been furnished one, thereby disseminating more fully the views and edicts of this Grand Lodge. I still have remaining some hundred copies in our archives. I am of opinion, therefore, that the number (fifteen hundred) ordered by you to be printed for distribution, is just sufficient for our wants, and recommend its continuance."

"This would seem to be a very large number of copies for distribution, but we are sure they are not too many for their jurisdiction, particularly if all the 'individual' members are furnished with a copy, which we consider highly proper and commendable. How many of the individual members of our jurisdiction ever see one of our Grand Lodge reports? and yet they are professedly printed for their information. We are sure that it is not the fault of our worthy Grand Secretary; for we have good cause to know, that no brother ever applies to him for a copy, who does not get one, as long as he has one to distribute. But the cause is *first*, that there are not generally a sufficient number of copies printed; and *secondly* our members seem to think that they are not published for their *individual* use. We notice that others of the Grand Lodges print a large number of copies—California, for instance, prints fifteen hundred copies.

"The report of the 'Louisiana Relief Lodge' is a highly interesting document, and although it does not appear that any member from this jurisdiction had occasion to apply for assistance, yet it will not be the less interesting to every Mason in it. We therefore cheerfully transfer the whole report to our report, and respectfully recommend it to the consideration of this Grand Lodge:

"To the *M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana*:

"In accordance with the precedent of last year, the following is presented you as the report and returns of "LOUISIANA RELIEF LODGE, No. 1," for the year ending the 31st December, 1856. During the past year our city and State have been blessed, by the favor of Divine Providence; with a freedom from all epidemical diseases, and hence the calls upon us for assistance has been much less than in any former year since the organization of the Lodge.

“The total amount granted has been about \$1,550, and which has been distributed as follows, to

MASONS FROM	MASONS FROM	WIDOWS & ORPHANS FROM
Arkansas.....\$30 00	Mississippi..... 42 75	California.....\$70 00
California..... 5 00	North Carolina.... 23 00	England..... 56 00
Canada West..... 10 00	New York..... 64 00	Ireland..... 27 00
Connecticut..... 1 00	Ohio..... 53 00	France..... 20 00
District of Columbia. 5 00	South Carolina.... 10 00	Alabama..... 2 50
France..... 20 00	Texas..... 7 50	Louisiana270 00
Germany..... 36 50	Unknown..... 15 00	Mississippi..... 55 00
Georgia.....109 50		Maryland..... 80 00
Ireland..... 50 00	Total.....\$633 50	New York..... 30 00
Iowa..... 6 00		South Carolina.... 49 00
Jamaica, W. I..... 11 00		Scotland.....197 50
Kentucky..... 31 00		Texas..... 60 00
Louisiana..... 50 00		
Malta..... 38 25		Total to widows and
Missouri..... 15 00		orphans.....\$917 00
		Total to Masons..... 633 50

Total relief granted during the year 1856.....\$1,550 50

“This amount we add to the recapitulation of former years, as reported by the Lodge of last year, and which is as follows :

RELIEF GRANTED TO

MASONS OF LOUISIANA.	OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS.	WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF LA.	OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS.	TOTAL.
1852.....\$ 5 00.....\$ 293 00.....\$ 55 00.....\$ 253 75.....\$ 606 75				
1853..... 57 00..... 1,323 50..... 121 00..... 894 50..... 2,396 00				
1854..... 75 00..... 907 20..... 319 60..... 766 85..... 2,068 65				
1855..... 84 00..... 1,227 00..... 384 25..... 1,101 50..... 2,796 75				
1856..... 50 00..... 583 50..... 270 00..... 647 00..... 1,550 50				
Total.....\$271 00	\$4,334 20	\$1,149 85	\$3,663 60	\$9,418 65

“The amounts above set forth embrace nothing whatever granted to members or the families of members belonging to the Lodges associated in the Relief Lodge ; nor do the amounts for 1855 and 1856, contain the cost of a burial place, nor of the vaults or graves in which the brothers were buried.

“The total incidental expenses during the past year have been, to the Secretary, \$60, and Tyler, \$15 ; total incidentals, \$75. The expenses of funerals have been \$72 50, paid to the undertaker. The cost of vaults has been nothing out of our treasury, as there is the tomb in the Greenwood Cemetery, completed during the past year at an additional expense of \$400, making the total cost of the tomb, including the ground on which it stands, to be about \$3,500.

“As was reported last year, “the largest part of the relief granted

has been to Masons (or their widows and orphans) hailing from other jurisdictions." There has still been the same difficulty met with, in the neglect of many Grand Lodges, to publish with their proceedings a list of their members. Did the several Grand Lodges publish such a list, and at once forward their proceedings to the Grand Secretary, means would be afforded for at once detecting many impostors. As it is, several instances have occurred during the past year in which, by a reference to the published returns, impostors have been detected and sent about their business. In others, parties applying for relief have been located in Lodges whose lists of members have not been published by their Grand Lodge, and have been relieved, but whom it was afterwards discovered were impostors. Another benefit, or at least satisfaction, would result were each Grand Lodge to publish a list of all the members borne on the roll of their chartered Lodges. A communication could then be addressed to the Lodge, and the correctness of the statements of the applicant ascertained.

"There is the same complaint to make against Lodges of other jurisdictions neglecting to answer communications addressed to them. During the past year, out of the large sums granted on the promise of a return so soon as the recipient reached his home, but three responses, accompanied by the money lent, have been received, amounting in all to \$40. In three other instances, however, letters of thanks have been received from the parties assisted, with a promise renewed to return the money so soon as able.

"The rule adopted in dispensing relief is the same as last year, "to furnish assistance to a sick brother, to bury the dead, and relieve those widows and orphans among us whose antecedents we know." For the first, an arrangement has been made with Brother Bensadon, Director and Resident Physician and Surgeon of the "Touro Infirmary," where, at \$2 per day, a private room is furnished, and every attendance afforded which the kindness of a brother can suggest. Advice is also given by him gratuitously, and medicines furnished to those not in the infirmary at cost price. By this arrangement a sick brother is better cared for, and at less expense to the Lodge, than by any other which can be imagined. It is worthy of remark, likewise, in this connection, that at least two impostors have been detected by him since the arrangement was made with Brother Bensadon.

"The returns show an addition to the number of contributing Lodges to the Relief Lodge. A circular was addressed to all the non-contributing Lodges in the city, Home Lodge, No. 142, and Ocean Lodge, U. D. The others, eight in number, made no response to the communication, and still decline to assist the others in relieving the wants of the hundreds who yearly call upon us for assistance, and in some instances have sent to the Lodge persons in need.

"At the close of another year, with additional experience, the members of this Lodge are still more firmly convinced, if possible, of the

immense benefits which this Lodge is capable of rendering the Fraternity. And in this they are more assured by the commendations it has received from all parts of the country for its usefulness. We especially refer to the following from the Grand Lodges of Connecticut and of Texas, the latter received this day :

(From the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, 1856.)

“ *Whereas* It has come to the knowledge of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, that our esteemed brethren of Relief Lodge, No. 1, in the city of New Orleans, have, during the last four years, expended large sums of money for the relief of the sick and burying the dead of their brethren from other Masonic jurisdictions ; and

“ *Whereas*, It also appears, that, during the last year, the said Relief Lodge did expend a considerable sum of money in alleviating the sufferings of sick and dying brother Masons from the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, who went out from us to sojourn in that far off city of the South ; and

“ *Whereas*, This Grand Lodge is desirous of testifying her appreciation of the fraternal affection manifested by the said Relief Lodge in thus exemplifying the beautiful principles of Freemasonry ; therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut does hereby tender to Relief Lodge, No. 1, in the city of New Orleans, her cordial and hearty thanks, for thus caring for and contributing of their substance for the relief of our suffering brethren.

“ *Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred dollars be, and hereby is appropriated from the funds of this Grand Lodge, and that the said Relief Lodge be requested to accept the same, as a slight token of our appreciation of, and sympathy in the sacred charity in which the said Lodge is engaged.

“ *Resolved*, That the subordinate Lodges in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be, and are hereby requested to appropriate such sums of money, from their funds and the contributions of individual members, as may be convenient ; such appropriations and contributions to be sent to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge before the first day of January next (or as soon as may be), and that the Grand Secretary forward whatever moneys he may so receive to the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, for the benefit of said Relief Lodge.

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge be, and is hereby instructed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to M. W. William M. Perkins, Grand Master of Masons for the State of Louisiana, with a fraternal request that he will communicate the same to the W. Master of Relief Lodge, No. 1, in the city of New Orleans.

“ On motion, it was voted, that the Grand Secretary be directed to

forward circulars to the subordinate Lodges, soliciting contributions in behalf of New Orleans Relief Lodge.'

(From the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, 1857.)

"*Resolved*, That the "Louisiana Relief Lodge," of New Orleans, be, and they are fraternally requested to report to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge the names of those to whom relief may be granted, and the amounts expended on each, whenever the applicant may hail from this jurisdiction, and that this resolution be certified by the Grand Secretary to said Relief Lodge.'

"'Fraternally submitted, in behalf of the Lodge,

"' J. Q. A. FELLOWS, W. M.

"' NEW ORLEANS, February 9th, 1857.'

"R. W. Brother M. H. Dosson, Deputy Grand Master, presented the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, which was read and ordered to be printed immediately for the use of the members of the Grand Lodge. The report reviews ably the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Lodges, but, we are sorry to say, that we do not see Florida in the list. The committee produce a powerful and conclusive argument in support of the action of our Canadian brethren in the organization of an independent Grand Lodge in that Province. They say: 'By the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, however, a charge of rebellion had been made against our Canadian brethren, and all Masonic intercourse strictly forbidden with that Grand Lodge, or any Lodge or individual having any connection therewith,' and after most signally demolishing their false and untenable position, the committee conclude :

"' We say, then, that we are called upon to recognize, as a Grand Lodge, a body of Masons formed "on exactly analogous principles to our own ;" that it was in common territory, and under no single jurisdiction ; that it did not resort to revolution nor close its doors upon all explanation or concession ; and while acting strictly by its own authority, and by virtue of its own inherent powers, did so under the example of every precedent which the annals of Freemasonry afford. For these and similar reasons, we are for giving them the right hand of fellowship, and if our connection with them in this be such as to deprive us of "all Masonic intercourse" with our brethren of Massachusetts, so be it ; for though that intercourse be a source of the highest pleasure to us, we are willing to forego it in the cause of truth and right.'

"If your committee had not argued this question fully in their report of last year, they would copy the whole of the argument of the committee of Louisiana into this report, at the risk of prolixity, for the benefit of the Craft of this jurisdiction.

"We notice particularly 'An Abstract of the Proceedings and Returns of the Grand Lodges of the United States,' which would be

complete if all the Grand Secretaries would furnish full tables of statistics in their reports, and which would present at a glance the strength of Freemasonry in the United States. It is evidently a work of much labor and patient investigation, and for which our accomplished brother the R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana is entitled to the thanks of every Grand Lodge in the Union.

MAINE.

"The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of this State was held in the city of Portland, Tuesday, 5th May, 1857, M. W. Jabez True, Grand Master, R. W. Ira Berry, Grand Secretary. The Grand Master's address is short and confined to local affairs. A resolution was adopted authorizing the Grand Master to appoint a standing committee on publications, 'whose duty it shall be to examine the reports of proceedings at this communication, and direct the publication of so much as they shall deem expedient, and who shall be authorized to make such amendments and changes in language and mode of expression as they consider proper and necessary.' That this is a judicious regulation we can have no doubt, and accounts for the uniform correctness of their proceedings, of which the volume now before us is a fine specimen for style, quality and typography. We have had occasion to remark, with agreeable surprise, the regular improvement in the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges that have come under our review; and it is a cause of wonder that it should be so, when is considered the hurried manner, necessarily, in which they are prepared and published. And, taking the number of volumes now before us as a sample, from every portion of this vast confederation, we venture the opinion that it will compare, in every respect, with the same amount of periodical literature in any portion of the world.

"We notice that the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution declaring, 'That the right (so called) to visit Masonically is not an absolute right, but is a favor which every lawful Mason in good standing is entitled to ask, and which the Master may concede or refuse at his discretion; and that no Master of a Lodge under this jurisdiction shall admit a visitor when objection to such admission is made by a regular member, or by a Lodge.' We quote this resolution, not so much for any great difference of opinion in *effect* between us and our Maine brethren because of the latter portion of the resolution. We all know that a visiting brother must ask admittance before he can enter, and that implying the power to refuse; and we also know that unanimity is essential to the harmony of a Lodge. If a Master Mason, in good standing, were to apply for membership, one blackball would reject him; but would it be thought necessary to adopt a resolution, declaring *that the right to affiliate is not an absolute right, but a favor which every lawful Mason, in good standing, is entitled to ask, but which may be refused by*

the objection of one member? We hold that Masons are bound together as brothers by peculiar obligations, which are equal and universal, and wherever they meet they meet upon the level, and that any resolution defining the right of a brother to visit a Lodge of his brother Masons is contrary to the spirit of FREEMASONRY; and were we to travel the world over, we would never visit a Lodge in any jurisdiction where such a resolution was thought necessary, nor would we receive assistance from any Mason who entertained such exclusive and unmasonic opinions, whatever might be our necessities.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is by Brother C. Pearl, the chairman, whose able reports we always read with pleasure and profit. It reviews the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Lodges, and a 'circular' from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, all of which, they say, 'covers some four thousand pages, and embrace more subjects and more varied excellencies than your committee can well condense into the limits of a report,' yet they 'regret the absence of those which are wanting to complete the "constellation" of Masonic lights over which waves the flag of our Union.' This report of the committee of Maine is an able digest of the proceedings which they have undertaken to review, and to which we could not do justice without adopting the whole report. We must, therefore, content ourselves with merely noticing what they say of us in the sunny South. In the proceedings of Florida for 1856, they say:

" 'There is also an address on the "MORAL ASPECTS OF FREEMASONRY," by Rev. Brother E. L. T. Blake, delivered before Jackson Lodge, No. 1, on the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. It is a noble effort, and does honor to the head and heart of the author, as does its adoption and circulation by the Grand Lodge honor the Fraternity in that State.

" 'The proceedings for 1857 contain a report of unusual ability on Foreign Correspondence, from the ready pen of Brother Thomas Brown, a veteran Mason of some fifty years standing. His report covers fifty pages. Twenty of these pages are devoted to the discussion of the questions at issue relative to the Grand Lodge of Canada; and it is no disparagement to the efforts of other committees to say that this is the most full and complete exposition of all the bearings of that question that has yet reached your committee."

"And as they publish the only account we have seen of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Canada, we will transfer that also to this report:

" 'CANADA.—The Grand Lodge of Canada held its annual convocation in the city of Hamilton, in July, and its proceedings come to us in the August number of the Canadian *Masonic Pioneer*. Thirty-nine Lodges were represented and were regularly numbered; and several others were not numbered, from a failure to make the requisite returns as to the date of their organization. The message of the M. W. Grand Mas-

ter Wilson is an able document, displaying a high degree of executive talent, as well as a generous Masonic spirit. In his notice of the circular issued by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, a portion of which your committee published last year, as also the action of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of New York, and others that declined to acknowledge them as a Grand Lodge, the tone and temper of the of the address are such as do honor to the head and heart of the Grand Master. He says : " I trust we are warranted in the conclusion, that the observances of Brother Evans were made in ignorance of the principal facts connected with our recent movements ; for it would be painful to me, and I cannot adopt the only other alternative, and believe that any statement of a brother holding the high position of Brother Evans amongst the Masons of New York, could have been made with an utter disregard to truth." He supposes that Grand Master Evans and others may have been misled by the circular referred to, and thus speaks in relation to it :

" " This circular of the Provincial Grand Lodge, is the first case that has come before me of any one having openly dared to dispute the truth of any statement contained in our address which, with a desire that our case should become thoroughly known, was extensively circulated all over the continent. And the first I knew of the circular, which appears to have been carefully concealed from us, was a few days since when a distinguished brother and leading member of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina informed me that such a circular had been addressed to them. Since my arrival in this city a copy has been put in my hands and it will presently be laid before you. Had it not been for this evidence, I would not have believed that the ' officers ' who still cling to the Provincial Grand Lodge would have descended to calumniate our proceedings, which they well know to have been taken on calm reflection, with strictly conscientious motives, and in perfect accordance with the principles of the Constitution of Freemasonry."

" " The committee appointed on the address of the Grand Master is also truly courteous and Masonic in reviewing the several topics referred to.

" " Your committee are impressed with the conviction that the fraternal and temperate course marked out in these proceedings of our brethren in Canada, will commend them to the good graces of those who have hitherto refused to recognize them as a Grand Lodge ; and that the Grand Lodge of England will promptly respond in the same fraternal spirit, and remove every obstacle to their recognition by all the Grand Lodges of the world.'

MARYLAND.

" We see by the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland that it has quarterly sessions of the Grand Steward's Lodge and special,

semi-annual and annual communications of the Grand Lodge. There seems to have been an annual communication of the Grand Lodge in the city of Baltimore, commencing 17th November, 1856, M. W. Charles Webb, Grand Master presiding, who in his address congratulates the Grand Lodge upon 'the evidences of the prospective happy and prosperous condition of the Fraternity,' and informs them that circumstances will prevent him from serving them any longer in the high office to which, in their kindness and partiality, they had called him for the last three successive years. There is a report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, which acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Jersey, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, California, and Kansas, and a report from the committee of New York on the proposed mediation of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 'together with a letter to R. W. James Page, P. G. M. from the chairman of said committee, and "fragments of a report on the signs of the times," addressed to reflecting Freemasons, by Joseph Foster.' But having been deprived of the valuable services of their chairman, they cannot take up these documents *seriatim*, and give to each a special notice, but must be content to give a general notice of special topics, discussed or enacted therein, so far as they have fallen under their notice. They notice several subjects which are discussed in those documents, but particularly the subject of uniformity of work and the loose practice which prevails in Lodges generally on that subject; and suggest two modes of remedy, 'from which will follow uniformity in many other matters.' We copy their views with pleasure:

"The first of these your committee would interpret thus, for the purpose of adapting the operative to the speculative. That no one shall be installed as a Master or Warden of a Lodge, unless he be competent to open and close his Lodge, and perform *all the work* pertaining to his office in a manner creditable to himself and his Lodge, and the improvement of all who may enter its portals.

"The second, that no one shall be passed until he has served a sufficient time, and has exhibited that he has acquired a creditable knowledge of the precepts and principles of his Apprentice degree, and that he shall not be raised until his work has passed the square in such shape as to stand the test of the plumb-line and level. When this shall have become the universal law and practice, then, and not till then, will we be in a condition to profit by any of the schemes which have been proposed to accomplish uniformity of work and ritual.

"Many have become "old fogies" in the modern improvements and blunders of their half-educated predecessors and preceptors. Many bright and shining luminaries have hardly shaken off the dust and darkness from which they were raised, ere they discovered that the old paths were worn out, and required their inventive powers to embellish, beautify, and adorn them.

“All these sorts of notions must be gotten rid of; each one must learn to distrust the correctness of his own *inventions*, recollections, and instructions. It is proper to fear that we may have drawn our knowledge from incorrect and imperfect sources, and that our recollections are not better than other men's. Let us rely on what were the ancient landmarks and charges, and on a fair share of common sense, and discard uncommon sense, early prejudices, and the pride of false consistency, and when we shall have accomplished these, then indeed shall we be “stones fitted for the builder's use.”

“They also report the proceedings of a semi-annual communication, 11th May, 1857, M. W. G. Master the Rev. J. A. McKenny, D.D., presiding, R. W. Jos. Robinson, Grand Secretary. There is a very valuable report by the Grand Inspectors of the city of Baltimore, and an address by the M. W. Grand Master, and a report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, but we can only copy the following extract on the subject of the Grand Lodge of Canada :

“‘However much your committee may sympathize with the brethren in Canada, engaged in this movement—and how earnestly soever they desire to see them occupying an independent position among the Grand Lodges of the world—they cannot, under existing circumstances, advise the recognition of the existence of “the Grand Lodge of Canada” as a regular and lawful Grand Lodge.’

MISSISSIPPI.

“The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of this State is truly a large volume, of over four hundred pages, with an index. The annual communication was held in the city of Vicksburg, 19th January, 1857, M. W. Giles M. Hillyer, Grand Master; R. W. T. Daniel, Grand Secretary. The M. W. Grand Master made an eloquent and fraternal address. He notices the expansion of the Order in that State, in which, within a third of a century, three Lodges have increased to upwards of two hundred, and two hundred members to eight or nine thousand, and says: ‘Extending from the stand-point the eye abroad over the world, contemplating the universality of our institution, glancing in thought over the climes, the regions, the continents, the States, the islands in which its banners and emblems float to the breeze, who may not be proud of its membership.’ But he reminds us, that this rapid extension, ‘this wonderful progress, is at once an element of strength, and yet a source of danger. The former, if worth and qualification mark our initiates; the latter, if the carelessness of the overseers permits aught but square work to pass inspection.’ He speaks some valuable truths, which cannot be too often repeated. ‘The listless and indifferent Mason is almost always the poor Mason. He becomes forgetful of his duties, careless of his obligations, ignorant of his work, unmindful of its lectures. His Lodge is wronged by his neglect

in its standing before the Craft, while he is injured in his standing in the Lodge. The prompt, punctual, and attentive Mason will as a general rule be found the brightest craftsman and the most useful citizen.' And he concludes with an ardent wish that all will so unite in harmonious work, that from their 'example the brethren may take pattern, and that thus all, in the words of the good old prayer, may be "so joined together in unity of spirit and in the bond of peace that we may be an holy temple acceptable unto God."'

"Brother R. W. T. Daniel, the Grand Secretary and *ex-officio* chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of the committee, acknowledging the receipt of the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Lodges, in the list of which we see the name of Florida. The committee do not take up the proceedings before them *seriatim*, but say they 'have considered it altogether judicious to notice only the most prominent subjects which have challenged the attention of the great body of the Craft.' They notice several subjects, but devote a strong and, as we believe, conclusive argument in support of the divine authority of the HOLY BIBLE as the great light in Masonry, which they regard 'a question of vital and paramount interest, it being discussed, not only in Grand Lodges, but in the Masonic periodicals of the day,' they 'cannot permit it to be passed over in silence.' We had given our views on this subject in our examination of the proceedings of Texas and California before we read this able argument of the Mississippi committee, and, although nothing could shake our opinion, we are not a little gratified to see our argument so well supported by the enlightened Masons of Mississippi and Delaware, and many others, we doubt not, which we have not yet seen. We observe that the committee use the term '*scriptures*,' as Ohio did but clearly not in the sense which Brother Sayre and some others gave to it, for they say: 'We would require no *express declaration* of a belief in either the Old or New Testament as an open qualification of a candidate.' But, in the words of the Iowa committee, '*without the Bible there is no Masonry*. If in any other country or nation, or among any people, kindred or tongue, an institution exists which does not derive its traditional, historical, and moral resources from the Bible, *it is not Masonry*.' We would like to extract copiously from this able report, if we had not indulged too far already on this subject. We will close with a short extract which we admire:

"We wish to institute no new Masonic tests. All we want is, to preserve those we have. Let the old landmarks stand. Remove not a stone from its appointed place in the building. Let the Holy Bible remain, as a light, on our altars, and a symbol on our charts, and there will be always some who shall know that the word is very nigh unto them; who will look upon that Book, teeming with all that is wonderful in the plans of the Godhead, and all that is marvelous in the mercies of heaven. We have the BIBLE. Put, then, nothing *new* into our

ritual. The Mason of hope, faith, and charity, has enough to enlighten his faculties, that he may discover the glorious truths which are there *already*. Difficulties there are, and things profoundly mysterious, and we must *all* pass the gates of death, in order to usher into a brighter scene, or survey a brighter field of intelligence. Beneath the living arch of eternity, curiously and wonderfully wrought, the ineffable glory of God shall be revealed. * * * * *

“Our Temple has a strong foundation. It was laid many ages ago—a stone—a tried stone—a precious corner-stone—a sure foundation; and no other foundation can any man lay. The materials used in the construction of the building were all put compactly together by inspired Masters, but were mainly prepared and furnished by the God whom we profess to worship and adore. His way is in the Sanctuary. His footsteps are heard even in our silent perambulations. He rules and governs a perfect Lodge, and His presence is symbolized in our most excellent copy of seven stars. His is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.”

MISSOURI.

“The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, at its annual communication, held in the city of St. Louis, 25th May, 1857, are before us, M. W. Benj. Sharp, Grand Master, R. W. A. O. Sullivan, Grand Secretary. The address of the M. W. Grand Master is directed to the consideration of local matters, and principally to the pecuniary affairs of the Masonic College situated at Lexington. He says:

“In my opinion, the time has arrived when this Grand Lodge must take some decided course in relation to this institution. The large debt, which, upon its account, was hanging over this Grand Lodge twelve months ago, has, as I learn from the report of the President, been diminished, leaving the present liabilities on that account \$6,322 98. So far as I have been able to ascertain, there is almost an universal dissatisfaction on the part of the subordinate Lodges in relation to this matter, and strong determination to withhold any further assistance in the way of endowing and sustaining it. I would, my brethren, that the responsibility of making some suggestions or recommendations in relation to this matter rested upon some one else. I have, in this Grand Lodge, labored in an humble way to sustain the institution, and have thought it could be done. I have looked upon it as one of the noblest charities of Masonry in this State. I have felt an honest pride in its prospects of success—but the conviction is at last forced upon me that it cannot succeed, and that it will be better for this Grand Lodge to make some disposition of the matter. I am fully satisfied that many of the subordinate Lodges will surrender their charters before they will submit to be further taxed on its account.”

“We observe a great portion of the time of the Grand Lodge was.

consumed in reviewing and acting upon the reports of various committees raised on this subject.

"There was a very full report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented by Brother George Whitcomb and published in the form of an appendix, covering thirty-six pages. The committee acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of Florida. They say, 'They give the names of the members of their Lodges, but the Grand Secretary was too lazy, or was not paid, to add them up.' If our respected Brothers of the Missouri committee were personally acquainted with our most worthy and efficient Grand Secretary, they would hardly be disposed to attribute any deficiency which might appear in his report of our Grand Lodge proceedings to a want of industry on his part, or to charge that pecuniary considerations would influence him in a faithful discharge of his Masonic duties. He has grown gray in the services of the Temple, as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter, both of which Grand bodies hold their annual sessions on the same days, at different hours ; and, being an M.D., with a laborious practice, his attention to which the care of an interesting family renders imperative, it may reasonably be supposed that there will be moments when some of the *irons* may get a little *scorched*.

"The chairman of the committee, in the conclusion of his very excellent report, says : 'We have endeavored to notice, as briefly as possible, the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges which have been sent to us, and that the actions of Grand Lodges upon important points may be the more vividly seen, we have placed together an abstract of their decisions.' He then gives the actions of a number of the Grand Lodges upon the following questions : 'Non-affiliation, Temperance, the Canada Grand Lodge, Uniformity of Work, Masonic Jurisdiction, Confederation, and reports of Committees on Correspondence.' Upon this abstract there is evidence of much labor and research bestowed. But, although this Grand Lodge has at one time or another expressed an opinion on all these subjects, or taken action, we remark that Florida is only named three times. This omission is doubtless owing to the fact that our esteemed brother had not copies of all our proceedings before him. He concludes his report by modestly saying, 'We regret that our report is not more perfect.' Now, we regret that our worthy brother has determined that on no account could he be induced to write another report.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"The Grand Lodge of this State convened in annual communication, in the city of Concord, June 9th, 1857, M. W. Alfred Greeley, Grand Master ; R. W. Horace Chase, Grand Secretary. The address of the Grand Master occupies but a small space on the journal of proceedings, but is a straightforward, business paper. He announces, since the last

communication, the death of distinguished Grand Officers Brothers William Boardman, Charles F. Gove, Timothy Kenrick, and Jacob Straw, and P. G. M. Henry Hubbard. A committee was appointed, who presented resolutions suitable to the occasion, which were unanimously adopted.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, examining the proceedings of thirty Grand Lodges, making copious extracts and comments on them. No report from Florida was received since January, 1856. The committee presented, with their report, sundry resolutions, which were adopted. Two of them we regard as worthy of the serious consideration of all Lodges, viz. :

"*Resolved*, That as affiliation is the duty of every Mason, Lodges under this jurisdiction are recommended to be very cautious in their intercourse with every person claiming to be a Mason who cannot give evidence that he is a member of some regularly constituted Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the desire of any person to be made a Mason because he wishes to travel, is no reason for considering it a case of emergency, and is not a sufficient reason for granting a dispensation to confer degrees out of the usual course.

"We find published in these proceedings an 'Address, delivered before the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, June 9th, 1857, by G. W. Chase, P. G. M.,' which we would gladly copy entire into this report, if we could do so with any proper regard to its limits ; and we don't see how we can well exclude any portion of it, but necessity compels us to make the experiment, and to give that portion we deem the most valuable without *common-place compliment*, which would only be a disparagement of its value :

"In too many instances, our Lodges are so crowded with work, that they scarce ever find time to *lecture*. The candidate is hurried through the degrees with all possible speed, and, in many cases, important explanations left out, and at last he is informed that there is a lecture connected with the degree, to which he is *entitled*, and which, at some more convenient time, will be communicated to him ; but alas ! in too many instances, this "convenient season" never comes. The candidate is, therefore, imperfectly instructed in his duties, his O. B.'s and in the real secrets of the Order.

"A continuance in this practice of omitting the Lectures belonging to the degrees, in time, begets *rustiness* in the Lectures. This *rustiness* is a serious evil. In such a Lodge, nothing can be done unless there is *work*. Members excuse themselves from attending the meeting when there is no work, because they are getting so rusty in the Lectures that it is no use to attempt them.

"This practice, then, of attempting so much work that it cannot be properly finished, by filling our ranks with half instructed members, seriously endangers the perpetuity of the institution, and, by a continuance of the practice, we may be certain that, ere long, there will be

little left of Masonry except the *name*, and, perhaps, not even so much as that.

“Secondly, the *quality* of the material received is not as carefully attended to as it should be.

“We are too apt to act as if we may and *ought* to receive every man that applies for admission, who is not openly and publicly an immoral or scandalous man. Some, whose habits were dangerously irregular, have been admitted, because they were “good-hearted fellows,” and perhaps Masonry would be the means of mending them. In such cases, we forget the important fact that our Lodges are not, should not, and cannot be *moral reform associations*. The ancient charges distinctly aver, that only “good men and true” should be permitted to gain an entrance within the veil of the tabernacle. Ours is a *spiritual* edifice, in the construction of which no rotten or crooked sticks, no rough, broken, cracked, stained or superfluous cornered stones should be allowed a place. Great care should be taken that their defects be found out before they have been removed from the mountain and the quarry, that our workmen be not impeded in their labors by time wasted upon material wholly unfit for use.

“We should be extremely cautious that our “partiality for our friend” does not lead us to propose those who are unworthy of our confidence and respect, and whose admission will only work evil and trouble, and that continually. It is not enough that we know no *hurt* of a petitioner; that we never heard anything *against* his moral character. The question should rather be, do we know any *good* of him? He should not be merely *neutral* in his morality and goodness, but positively and actively a “good and true man.” These *neutrals* in the moral world are not fit subjects for Freemasonry. They only serve to swell our numbers at the expense of quality, and occupy room that might be, and should be filled by *living* stones. As they were out of the Order, so will they be in it—“lukewarm, neither cold nor hot”—and we know that this was once deemed a grave charge, and sufficient to destroy a whole Church.

“Our honors were intended for worthy men, and worthy men alone; and they are safe in no other hands. No moral or mental hermaphrodite should ever be allowed among us, any more than one physically such.

“This train of thought leads us to consider how we can prevent the admission of unworthy material, and how a few, or perhaps even *one* faithful sentinel, can preserve the Lodge from the dangerous contact.

“The “Ancient Charges,” from whose decision there is no appeal, and by whose directions we are solemnly bound,—say that

““The persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true men, free-born, and of mature and discreet age; no bondmen, no women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.” And the

"General Regulations," adopted at the same time, specify *how* they are to be admitted.

" "No man can be made or admitted a member of a particular Lodge, without previous notice one month before given to the Lodge, in order to make due inquiry into the reputation and capacity of the candidate ;" and further—

" "But no man can be entered a brother in any particular Lodge, or admitted to be a member thereof, without the unanimous consent of all the members of that Lodge then present when the candidate is proposed, and their consent is formally asked by the Master ; and they are to signify their consent or dissent in their own prudent way, either virtually or in form, but with unanimity. Nor is this inherent privilege subject to a dispensation ; because the members of a Lodge are the best judges of it ; and if a fractious member should be imposed on them, it might spoil their harmony, or hinder their freedom ; or even break and disperse the Lodge ; which ought to be avoided by all good and true brethren."

" "We have here enough to guide us safely through the dangerous seas of our present popularity, if we will only steer by these landmarks which our fathers have set.

" "No man can be admitted without the consent of every brother, even the *humblest* in the Lodge then present when the candidate is proposed. This is an "inherent privilege," say these ancient regulations. Not even subject to a "*dispensation*"—that patent medicine of Masonry, so common and so popular, and so frequently resorted to in these latter days.

" "The *ballot*, therefore, has been wisely called the great bulwark of of Masonry. It is our stronghold. It is the outer wall, to defend us from the approach of the unworthy. And the key to the gate is in the hands of each individual member, and none can enter without his consent. What a power ! What an important trust is committed to each individual of us ! The very existence of the institution depends on our fidelity and faithfulness.

" "But let us notice some of the minor points connected with the ballot.

" "The above quoted regulation does not specify *how* the ballot is to be taken, but leaves the mode to the Lodges.

" "Universal custom seems to have adopted, or made use of white and black balls for this purpose ; one of the latter being sufficient, in nearly every Masonic jurisdiction, to reject an applicant.

" "And it is further provided by custom, that the ballot shall be a *secret* one ; not merely virtually secret, but actually and really secret.

" "This is one of the most vital points connected with the subject of balloting.

" "At the present day, when such multitudes are pressing for admission, so many influences from without and from within are brought to

bear, that, even with a secret ballot, weak brethren are found to consent to the admission of those they know and believe unworthy. And how much greater would be the danger if this veil of secrecy was removed. We might almost as safely dispense with *all* balloting, as to dispense with this very secrecy.

“No one has a right to know or even inquire how another has or will ballot. Each brother has the right (and should ever be protected in that right) to deposit his ballot according to his best judgment, unawed by fears of exposure to the ill-will of any, either inside or outside the Lodge. The only exception Masonic authorities allow to the rule seems to be, that if an *objecting* brother *chooses* to give his reasons for objecting, either before or after a ballot, he has a right to do so. Having done so, the objections are the property of the Lodge, and if a majority decide that they are not sufficient, the brother is morally and Masonically bound to withdraw them. So long as he keeps them to himself, they are his own private property, but as soon as they are divulged to the Lodge, they become the property of the Lodge, to be disposed of as the Lodge may see fit to determine. But it is not proper for an *assenting* brother to make his vote known, either before or after ballot, because if one can do so, all can do so, and by all assenting brothers proclaiming their vote, the objecting ballot is traced to its source, and thus the secrecy of the ballot violated and utterly destroyed.

“Closely connected with this part of the subject of balloting, is that of a “*reconsideration* of the ballot.” Sometimes, if one or more blackballs appear upon a ballot, the box is passed a second time, and even a third time ; and sometimes the ballot is “postponed” or “adjourned” or “deferred” to the next meeting. And cases are no wise uncommon where at the same or a subsequent meeting, after a rejection, a “motion to *reconsider*” is made, entertained, and carried, and a new ballot ordered, which is pronounced clear, and the candidate received and invested with the secrets.

“This last proceeding is totally at variance with Masonic and even common justice, and a violation of the most sacred rights of a member.

“In this, and most other jurisdictions, *one* blackball is sufficient to reject. If, then, upon the first ballot there is found a negative, the candidate is virtually rejected. But upon the *supposition* that the negative might be cast by mistake, it is considered correct and proper to pass the box the second time. This is only to make it certain that there was no mistake made on the first ballot. In some cases, even a *third* ballot may be passed, if in the opinion of the W. M. there may have been a mistake on the first and second ballot. But according to our best authority, a third ballot is always *final*, and if, upon the first or second *more* than one negative appear, the candidate must be declared rejected.

“The practice of “adjourning” or “postponing” a ballot after it

has been once passed, or of "reconsidering" it when once declared, is a bad one. It is fraught with evil, and only evil. In nearly every case in which it is resorted to, the object is to override the negative of the objecting brother, and smuggle in a person obnoxious to him. This one fact alone is sufficient to stamp the act as *inexcusably unmasonic*.

"I have thus very briefly noticed the important subject of the admission of candidates,—one of the very first in importance, if we wish to preserve the purity of our Order, and transmit it, without addition or subtraction, to those who come after us.

"I enjoin it upon you, then, you Masters and Wardens, that you urge upon your members to let no partiality for friends, no fear of offense, lead them to consent to the admission of unworthy persons into the Order. And in the same earnest manner would I have them to know that no "private pique," that no frivolous objection, should induce them to reject a worthy man, who declares that he comes "uninfluenced by any unworthy motives;" that he "freely and voluntarily offers himself" for admission, and, if accepted, will cheerfully "conform to all the established usages and customs of the Fraternity." If you are so unfortunate as to have one among you who, for real or apparent unworthy motives, *willfully* objects to any or all who apply for admission, deal gently and carefully with him. He is an unfinished block. He has never been thoroughly instructed in all the sublime principles of charity and brotherly love, and, above all, justice. Make haste, therefore, to *finish* him, and doubt not that, when done as all your work should be done, the cement of brotherly love and affection will keep him in his proper place.

"I have alluded to the *Lectures* of Masonry as something that every candidate should be instructed in when he receives his degrees.

"From the Lectures we gain a knowledge of the sublime doctrines of Freemasonry. We there learn *why* it is that our peculiar forms and mystic signs and ceremonies have been adopted. We there learn how to prove ourselves possessed of the talismanic secrets of the Order, and how to prove others. The Lectures, therefore, form an important part of the information belonging to the degrees, and to which the candidate is entitled by virtue of his acceptance. The ceremony is incomplete and the instruction imperfect without them, and no candidate should ever be considered as having received his degrees until he has received the Lectures in full. Having paid for the *whole* of the degrees, it is wrong to cheat or defraud him out of any part of them, as for him to deprive others of what rightfully belongs to them.

"Perhaps, in this connection, it may not be unprofitable briefly to notice the origin and progress of the present form of what are technically called the "Lectures" of Masonry.

"Previous to about the year 1720, when a person was initiated, passed, or raised, the secrets were communicated to him, and the explanations given him in such language as the Master could command

at the time. But about this time, as an assistance to Masters of Lodges, Drs. Anderson and Dessaguliers, two eminent Masons, compiled or arranged the information necessary to be given to candidates into the form of questions and answers, still preserving the name that had been previously applied to the usual instructions of the Master—that of “Lectures.”

“So favorably were these received, that the Grand Lodge of England adopted the form, and ordered them to be given in the Lodges.

“In the year 1732, the Lectures of Anderson and Dessaguliers were revised by Martin Cure, who *added* a brief allusion to the human senses and the theological ladder.

“A few years later, Thomas Dunckerly, who was considered the most intelligent Mason of his day, *extended* and improved the Lectures, and, among other things, *first* gave to the theological ladder its three most important rounds.

“These continued to be used until 1763, when Rev. Wm. Hutchinson gave them an improved form. Hutchinson explained the three lights by “the three great stages of Masonry; the knowledge and worship of the God of nature in the purity of Eden; the service under the Masonic law when divested of idolatry; and the Christian revelation. But most especially our lights are typical of the Holy Trinity.”

“Again, in 1772, these Lectures were revised and improved by Preston, whose system was the standard in England until the Union of 1813, when Dr. Hemming established the system now generally practiced in the English Lodges.

“The *Preston* Lectures were early introduced into this country, and were considerably modified by T. S. Webb, whose system has been the *basis* of all those taught since his day in the Lodges of the United States.

“We have thus seen whence the Lectures originated, and are prepared, in a measure, to charge infringements upon the ancient landmarks (if there be any in them) upon their authors. And if, as many brethren believe, the doctrines of the Lectures are *ALL* “landmarks,” we are prepared to say who have *added* to the landmarks.

“But the Lectures, as a whole, are *not* landmarks of the Order. They are the simple *text* of Masonry—“a course of instruction in which the ceremonies, traditions, and moral instructions appertaining to the degree are set forth, while the extended illustrations which are given to them by an intelligent Master or Lecturer—and which he can only derive from a careful study of scripture, of history, and of the published works of learned Masonic writers—constitute the *commentary*, without which the simple text is comparatively barren and uninteresting.” These commentaries are the *philosophy* of Masonry, without a knowledge of which no brother can claim our technical title of “*a bright Mason*.”

“While, therefore, the intelligent Mason will give the *text* in the

language prescribed for him by his Grand Lodge, he will not feel himself rigidly confined *to this alone*, in imparting instructions to his less informed brethren.

“The ritual contains but a small part of the “body of Masonry,” and most certainly a very small quota of its history and philosophy ; and the Mason whose only knowledge of the Institution and its doctrines has been derived from this source, can hardly lay claim to an intelligent knowledge of Freemasonry.

“It is only when the mind has become expanded by a perusal of the “Great Light of Masonry,” which is ever open in the Lodge—when we have carefully studied the moral precepts inculcated by the degrees—when we have considered well the great doctrines taught in the third degree, that we begin to see that the mission of Freemasonry is not the mere transmission and preservation of forms and ceremonies, of signs and tokens ; that our work as Free and Accepted Masons is not to be confined to conferring the degrees upon candidates. We then begin to have more exalted ideas of the Institution, and of its mighty power as a means of good. Then we begin to appreciate the idea of brotherly love, of relief and truth. Then we begin to understand *why* temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice should be constantly kept in view by all the members of the Order. Then we realize that, as a science of religious symbolism, Freemasonry has no equal ; that its emblems seem invested with new properties—and that the light—the real light of truth—breaks in upon our enraptured vision. We then see, *not* a mere childish play, founded it may be on a myth, a fable, an improbability—but we learn, that though our path is beset with dangers, and though we must all fall by the hand of death, and be deposited in the silent tomb, yet we shall finally be raised to new life, and be allowed an entrance into that Celestial Lodge above, where our supreme Architect presides.

“Brethren, I have spoken, but necessarily with much brevity, of a few things that concern us as Freemasons. I have acknowledged to you that the present unparalleled prosperity of our Order, is a *dangerous* popularity for us ; that never before in our history has there been a time when the virtues of fortitude and prudence were more needed than at the present moment. I have read to you from authority that only good men and true should participate in our labors. I have pointed out how the unworthy can be kept out, and how alone it can be done. I have urged time and patience in finishing all work undertaken, as necessary to preserve our Institution from change and decay. I have acknowledged my belief that the mission of Freemasonry is an exalted one, and well worthy our best wishes and earnest efforts. Instead of seeking out honeyed words of flattery and praise, to induce you to lull yourselves asleep upon your posts in the delusion that danger is far from you, that “all is well,” I have chosen rather to speak the words of truth and soberness.

“ And, may I not hope that these thoughts and suggestions, brief and unconnected though they be, have fallen upon willing ears, have taken root in willing hearts ; and will *some time* bear fruit, even though it be only a few fold.

“ To us is committed a valuable treasure. Those who left it with us have many of them gone a long journey. Let us be careful that when it is called for, we may be able to give a good account of our stewardship.

“ Those who come after us will receive their instruction through us. How important, then, that we instruct them carefully and thoroughly in the important duties devolving upon them as Freemasons ; that our and their *faith* may be evinced in a correct, moral walk and deportment ; that our *hope* be bright as the glorious mysteries that will be revealed hereafter, and our *charity* boundless as the wants of our fellow-creatures.

“ While we live, let us meet upon the *level*, let us act upon the *plumb*, and let us part upon the *square*.

“ In the beautiful language of a poet brother :

“ There 's a world where all are equal,
We are hurrying toward it fast ;
We shall meet upon the level there,
When the gates of death are past.
We shall stand before the Orient,
And our master will be there—
To try the blocks we offer
By His own unerring square.

“ Let us meet upon the level, then,
While laboring patient here ;
Let us meet and let us labor,
Though the labor be severe.
Already in the Western sky
The signs bid us prepare
To gather up our working tools,
And part upon the square.

“ Hands round, ye faithful Masons,
Form the bright fraternal chain ;
We part upon the square below,
To meet in Heaven again ;
What words of precious meaning,
These words Masonic are :
We meet upon the level,
And part upon the square.’

NEW JERSEY.

“ The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey are ‘ an emergent meeting,’ held at Varick Lodge-room, in Jersey City, on the 9th February, 1856, and an annual communication, held at Trenton, 14th January, 1857, M. W. Daniel Babbitt, Grand Master ; R. W. Joseph H.

Hough, Grand Secretary; and the reports from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, one for the year 1856, acknowledging the receipt of forty Masonic documents, twenty-nine of which are the printed proceedings of Grand Lodges for the year 1855, and the other for the year 1857, acknowledging the receipt of forty-four Masonic documents, thirty-three of which are the published proceedings of the Grand Lodges for the year 1856. The committee say most truly : 'It would appear a task, judging from the voluminous matter we have had to look through to cull something that will be beneficial, as well as a knowledge of how our sister Grand Lodges are progressing in the great work, that we have set ourselves to work out for the benefit of one another.' We must say we think the 'task' has been well executed, and the mass of Masonic matter examined and reported upon with the ability and judgment of experienced and enlightened Masons. On the subject of dimits, they quote from the address of Grand Master Bierce of Ohio :

" "Immediately on entering upon the duties of this office, I was met by an evil, coextensive with Masonry in America at least—I mean the practice of dimitting from the Lodge, by which a brother became released from all the duties of the Lodge and from Lodge dues, but remained still entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry. These brethren, in practice, made obsolete the rule of our first Great Light in Masonry, that they who will not work shall not eat. As ready to partake of the stores of Masonry as any others, they refused to contribute to their accumulation ; but, drones in the hive of Masonry, their great desire appeared to be to enjoy without laboring, and to consume without producing.

" "With these views of the ancient landmarks of Masonry, I could not tolerate such a course. It was suicidal in itself, as it held out inducements to members to withdraw from the support of the Order, by giving them all the benefits and requiring from them none of the duties. It was throwing the burden of sustaining the Order on a few, who, by their labor and money, sustained the Lodges and the Grand Lodge, while those contributing nothing enjoyed all the rights and privileges."

" "The subject is well supported by numerous decisions of Grand Lodges and other eminent authority. The committee to whom the matter was referred made a report, which we take the liberty to copy here :

" "That we recognize fully the doctrine laid down in the Ancient Constitutions, 'that it is the duty of every Mason to belong to some regular Lodge.' But, as his entrance into the Fraternity is of his own free will and accord, so should be the performance of this and every other Masonic duty. When, from whatever cause, he desires to withdraw his membership from the Lodge, it is his undoubted right to

ask, and the duty of the Lodge, if there be no objection to his moral standing, to grant him an honorable discharge.

“ “ If, when called upon for that purpose, he shall decline to contribute his proper proportion for the support of the Lodge and eleemosynary purposes, it is the *right*, and may become the *duty*, of the Lodge to withhold from him all the rights and privileges of the Institution. For, while the Institution is one of voluntary benefits, it should not be preyed upon by calculating craftiness or unwilling parsimony. A brother who, without reasons which to the Lodge may be good and satisfactory, shall withhold his active support from it, should be regarded as placing himself in a state of *voluntary suspension* from all the rights and privileges of the Order ; and we regard it as no breach of duty or propriety to withhold Masonic comity from those occupying that position.

“ “ We therefore recommend for adoption the following resolutions :

“ “ *Resolved*, That we recommend to the Lodges under this jurisdiction to discountenance, by all proper means, the practice of non-affiliation ; and that, in the dispensation of their charity, they pay regard to those who are contributors to Masonic resources.

“ “ *Resolved*, That, as one of such means, Lodges may withhold from non-affiliated Masons the right of visiting, of participating in their public exercises, and of Masonic interment.

“ “ *Resolved*, That we recommend to the Lodges under this jurisdiction caution in dispensing their alms to persons from abroad claiming Masonic charity, without their first producing satisfactory evidence of their being *members* of good standing in some regular Lodge.”

“ “ This is what we call treating a disease professionally, and, if carried out with a determination to continue, our word for it, *traveling* beggars would be few, and our charities bestowed on more worthy objects.

“ “ He further says :

“ “ “ If a Mason ever requires the sympathy of his brethren, it is in old age, when his head is blossomed with years, and his trembling feet totter, as he walks upon the level of time. It has been too long customary to dimit such, because too infirm to attend the Lodge, or too poor to pay dues. If too infirm to attend the Lodge, let the brethren show their regard for them by helping them there ; if too poor to pay their dues, let the Lodge remit them, but not dimit them out of the Lodge in their old age because no longer useful.”

“ In our judgment, this extract covers the whole ground, and contains all that can be said on the subject.

“ These reports were presented by Brother Hough, the Grand Secretary, who was also chairman of the committee, and embrace much more than we might profitably transfer, if our report was not already extended to too great a length. Nevertheless, we cannot refrain from taking an extract from the Grand Master's address, which we believe

every true Mason in this jurisdiction will receive with the respect due to the admonition of a sage of our Order :

“ At the time when I was clothed with the authority, and invested with the insignia of the office of Grand Master, into which I was then duly installed, after claiming the indulgence and invoking the charity of the brethren for the many short-comings and errors I should commit during the brief period I should remain in the discharge of its official duties, I had naught to offer in return but my sincere thanks, the prestige of gray hairs, an unwavering attachment to the fundamental principles of Ancient York Masonry, and a firm resolve, as far as in me lay, to protect the same against those modern innovations which threaten to mar its beauties, circumscribe its charities, and destroy its usefulness.

“ Any change or deviation from prevailing customs or usages will be much more apparent to one who, for a long period, has been absent from the theatre of their exhibition, than to those who daily witness their performance. While the secret mysteries of the Order and its ancient landmarks, for the most part, remain undisturbed, yet many alterations and additions have been made in the performance of its rites and ceremonies, and mode of work, since the commencement of the present century, has doubtless been observed by many of the elder brethren.

“ The reverence and deep veneration in which the ancient Order of Freemasonry is held, not only by its own members, but by the world at large, is derived from its antiquity. No better evidence of the intrinsic worth of any institution could be adduced than its continued existence for so long a period amid the changes and revolutions of civil governments and the prejudices and persecutions it has encountered from its enemies. The proofs of this antiquity should be carefully preserved. The antiquarian of a future age, like the one of the present or the past, in searching through the long vista of departed years for the origin of Freemasonry, must be guided and directed to the period of time when the manners and customs, the usages, and, to some extent the language of the age, correspond with those which now characterize the Institution.

“ Not only those moral precepts which guide and direct the Mason in the discharge of his duties to God and his neighbor, but the ancient legends, on which the different degrees of the Order are founded, are derived from the pages of that open sacred volume which forms the first great light of Masonry, and which ever remains open on its altars.

“ The beauty, the grandeur, the solemnity of style which characterize the volume of inspiration, is not only proof of divine origin, but likewise a safeguard against change or innovation. What modern divine could successfully imitate the sublime eloquence of an Isaiah or

the plaintive strains of a Jeremiah, would add one to the catalogue of wise sayings uttered by him who caused to be erected that magnificent temple, so celebrated in the annals of Masonry, or could rewrite the the sermon on the mount, every sentence of which contains a whole volume of modern theology. But the integrity of the text of that sacred volume is still further protected by the anathema of its divine Author, denounced against him who should presume to add to or take an iota from its contents.

“The institution of Freemasonry is not shielded from innovation by such safeguards. Although we can recognize the kind care of that Providence which has protected it from its origin to the present day, and although many of us have been taught to believe that its archives have been consecrated, by being made the depository for safe keeping of those manuscripts which form a component part of the sacred volume, yet the only means we possess of preserving the ancient landmarks and secret mysteries of the Order, is a strict and faithful adherence to that oral tradition through which they have been transmitted, through so many centuries, to the present day.

“Should not the disapprobation of this Grand Lodge be denounced against that practice which, in unfolding to a candidate the secret mysteries of Freemasonry, substitutes for this tradition the printed manual of some perjured Judas, who has betrayed his trust, and incurred the penalties of his violated obligations?”

NEW YORK.

“We have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, at its annual meeting, 2d June, 1857, which is, as usual, a full, able and interesting report. Three hundred and twenty-nine Lodges were represented—John L. Lewis, Jr., M. W. Grand Master, presiding; R. W. James M. Austin, Grand Secretary.

“The address of the M. W. Grand Master covers some thirteen pages of the proceedings, and is principally devoted to the consideration of the state of Masonic affairs in that jurisdiction, and shows him to be a prompt, vigilant, and efficient presiding officer. He adverts to the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge at its last annual communication, refusing to ‘recognize as a Grand Lodge the newly formed body in Canada, claiming to be the Grand Lodge of Canada,’ and says: ‘The resolution thus offered met with my approbation and concurrence when proposed, but it has since been alleged that our action was hasty and without sufficient light, and that new views of the matter have since been presented and new facts elicited. Without a wish to revive discussion on the subject further than to develop the truth and to relieve this Grand Lodge from a charge of injustice, and from a feeling of respect to those Grand Lodges who have arrived at a different conclusion, I would respectfully suggest that the question be again considered by this Grand Lodge.’

"In regard to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, he says: 'It is with feelings of sincere sorrow, wholly unmixed with anger, that I am constrained to point to the single exception to our amicable relations with the Grand Lodges and Fraternity of the world—I mean in the State of Pennsylvania.' And, after commenting on the state of relations with that Grand body, he counsels the adoption of an interdict which shall 'as sternly ignore the existence of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and its subordinates as they do ours. But it is not meant that this should be done in a spirit of personal bitterness. Pennsylvania has too many noble and distinguished brethren to make this aught but a sad and sorrowful parting between us. When justice shall prevail in its councils, and a conviction of our existence shall dawn upon our beloved brethren in that State, then we shall be as prompt and ready to extend the right-hand of fellowship as we have been in the long by-gone years.'

"He then says: 'The subject of domestic dissensions in our Fraternity has largely occupied the attention of brethren and the Grand bodies without the jurisdiction for several years. While we were quietly pursuing our duties and increasing the circumference of our fold from year to year, unconscious of aught to disturb our tranquillity save those little differences of opinion which spring up within the boundaries of every Grand Lodge on this continent, and which pass away with the occasion which gave rise to them, the voice of lamentation, of sympathy, of reproof, of remonstrance, and even of sarcastic invective was by turns sounded in our ears. By far the greater part of these had distinct allusions to the difficulties of 1849, but others honestly supposed that the Freemasons of this great State were constantly rocked to and fro by dissensions, without any very definite idea of their cause. Confident in the impregnable strength of our position, and conscious of the rectitude of our principles and acts, these murmurs had ceased to attract more than a passing attention within our borders, but it was galling and painful to find, when brought into communion with brethren from other States, that we were often treated coldly, and viewed with apparent distrust and suspicion, from these supposed domestic difficulties. From time to time, as a measure of caution, due alike to ourselves and to those thus affiliated with us, we had deemed it necessary to give notice and warning of the existence of clandestine bodies in the State, having their existence from causes connected with 1849. These were, in some quarters, magnified into new controversies and dissensions, and were the source of renewed comment. For the sympathy of our brethren in other jurisdictions we have ever felt and expressed the warmest gratitude; for their timely aid in trial we are bound to them by new ties of fraternal obligation; for their advice as to the wisest measures for us to pursue, we are deeply indebted; and their friendly remonstrances have ever met with

the most respectful attention ; nor is our sense of obligation and gratitude lessened by the fact, that we, having been clearly right, they could have scarcely acted otherwise without palpable inconsistency. But self-respect also impels us to say that we are an independent Grand Lodge, and self-reliance compels us to declare that we feel entirely competent to manage our own internal affairs within the pale of Masonic law and the bounds of principle, to which none have adhered more rigidly in precept and practice than the combined Fraternity of this State, and unawed by threats or dictation.'

"We confess that we read this effusion of the distinguished Mason, who presides over the great State of New York, with surprise, and copy it without comment.

"We copy another portion of the Grand Master's address, which places him in a more amiable and interesting attitude, and commends him as an example of all Grand Masters, whilst it claims the admiration of all good Masons. He says :

"During my official term I have discharged the various routine duties appertaining to my position, such as the installation of officers, the dedication of halls, and consecration of lodge-rooms, public as well as private lectures and addresses on festival occasions, and have repeatedly been called to discharge the last mournful duties over the ashes of the beloved and lamented dead, and to cast the evergreen emblem of faith upon the breast of the lifeless dust. I trust that I have felt, at such times, that it was better for me to be in the house of mourning than in the house of feasting.

"Another duty has not been neglected. He who would counsel and advise in the administrative affairs of Masonry, must have a constant practical knowledge of the subject on which he speaks. For the last three years I have not missed the same number of regular meetings of the Lodge of which I am a member, and during the past year, I have visited a large number of Lodges in the portion of the State in which I reside. I have presumed that the same motives and feelings ; the same aspirations and passions ; the same zeal in some and coldness in others ; the same differences in temperament and disposition existed elsewhere as among the brethren of my own particular Masonic family.'

"A very able report was made by Brother D. Ullman, on the subject of 'a Masonic Life Insurance Company,' which was accepted by the Grand Lodge, and ordered to be printed; and measures were taken by the Grand Lodge for the organization of a 'Masonic Board of Relief,' and the creation of a 'Masonic Asylum' and other public spirited measures. In regard to relations with Pennsylvania, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That until the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania shall recognize this Grand Lodge, and accord to and treat her members and constituents with the respect and fraternal courtesy due to all Masons and Masonic bodies, all Masonic intercourse between

that Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York be, and hereby is suspended, and the subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction are hereby forbidden to permit the visitation of Masons hailing from that State, until such recognition shall take place.

"On the subject of Canadian affairs, 'R. W. John W. Simons presented the following preamble and resolutions, which on motion were laid on the table :

"*Whereas*, At the last annual communication of this M. W. Grand Lodge, the subject of recognizing the claims of the Grand Lodge of Canada to the right of Masonic fellowship and communion with the Grand Lodges of the American Union, was, as far as this body is concerned, denied; and

"*Whereas*, Upon investigation of the subject, it is clear that such decision was not based on any historical precedent, but was rather made in deference to the supposed wish and opinion of the Grand Lodge of England, by no means an infallible body (as the records of its proceedings during the past year abundantly show), which said Grand Lodge of England, like every other Grand Lodge, was formed in substantially the same manner as the Grand Lodge of Canada; and

"*Whereas*, The so-called Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada are but committees of the parent body in England, having no powers but such as are distinctly conferred on them by the supreme government, and no constituency (save on paper); and are, therefore, not the peers of sovereign Grand Lodges founded by the people and directed by their will; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada, of which WM. MERCER WILSON is Grand Master, having been founded in accordance with all Masonic precedent, from the foundation of the English Grand Lodge by the four original Lodges in London to this time, is justly entitled to all the rights and privileges of a legal Grand Lodge of Freemasons.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge hereby extends to the Grand Lodge of Canada, the right hand of fellowship, with our most cordial wishes for their future prosperity.'

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is as usual a very full and elaborate examination of the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand Lodges, and 'a brief review of the acts and transactions of the Universal Masonic Congress, which convened at Paris, in France, in the month of June, 1855.'

"The committee head their report with a list of Grand Lodges whose proceedings had been received, and say :

"It will be perceived that the foregoing includes them all, except Arkansas, Maryland, Minnesota, Delaware, and Vermont; and we much regret the absence of the proceedings of these bodies, for we count each and all of them as important pillars in the great national Masonic edifice, and luminaries whose lights ever radiate truth, good will, and fraternal affection to their sister Grand Lodges of the Union.'

"We suppose this was intended as a sort of double figure, partaking of the splendid and the sublime—the 'pillars in the great national Masonic edifice' receiving their lights radiated from the great luminary in the city of New York. It was under the influence of this brilliant conception, that the M. W. Grand Master and the committee of New York so promptly denounced the action of the Canadian Masons, 'we cannot for a moment countenance schisms and rebellions;' and they were only aroused from their hallucination, by the startling information, 'that one or more of the Grand Lodges' had acknowledged 'this spurious Grand Lodge in Canada as legitimate;' and as these 'strangely mysterious' events began to accumulate, they became more conscious of their inconsiderate blunder. They could 'scarcely open a copy of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodges as they came into the Grand Secretary's office but' they found able arguments in support of the legitimacy of 'this spurious Grand Lodge in Canada,' with cordial recognitions, and offers of fraternal intercourse. We can readily imagine under such circumstances the chagrin and mortification which must have nearly overwhelmed them; and we could not find it in our hearts to exult over their discomfiture. Indeed, we could make great allowances for ill-natured remarks and suggestions, whenever they see anything in the proceedings of their sister Grand Lodges favoring the movement of the Canada brethren. But making every allowance that fraternal feelings could suggest, they cannot be justified in their rude and unmannerly assault upon a member of the Florida committee. In their notice of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, they say:

"A report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Brother Thomas Brown, which occupies forty-eight pages, of which twenty-six are devoted to the "address of the Grand Lodge of Canada," and in advocacy of the claims of that body to recognition as a legitimate Masonic organization. The latter portion assumes to answer in detail the arguments put forth by the undersigned in their last year's report, why we could not recognize that body. Regarding Florida as we ever have, with a consideration and respect second to none, ever speaking of her proceedings and the reports of her committees with the utmost courtesy and fraternal kindness, and sometimes defending the acts of Masons and Masonic bodies in that State, when traduced by their sister jurisdictions, it was not without pain that we read, in the present report, remarks towards the Grand Master of this State, and toward the undersigned, reflecting upon them in a manner which forbids us to reply to the report and preserve our self-respect. Our respected Grand Master, the M. W. Brother Evans, stated in his address to this Grand Lodge, last year,—an address that was characterized with unusual ability and profound statesmanship, "that I have been startled to learn that one or more of the Grand Lodges have acknowledged this spurious Grand Lodge in Canada as legitimate." The quotation of Brother Brown,

from the Grand Master's address, is continued for several lines, and speaks of the criticisms of other Grand Lodges on the unpleasant state of things which have sometimes existed in the jurisdiction of New York. His commentary upon the quotation is: "Ah! we sadly fear here lies the whole difficulty in respect to the proceedings of our Canadian brethren. The Worthy Grand Master has been so long brooding over 'schisms and rebellions' at home, he has become nervously affected, and sees spectres behind every bush, and fell auguries in the flight of every bird."

"Referring to our own arguments showing the illegitimacy of the body styled 'the Grand Lodge of Canada,' Brother Brown, in one place remarks: "It is by this kind of logic and arguments predicated upon false or assumed premises, that the (New York) committee hope to sustain their position." Again, quoting our language, in which we contended that a Provincial Grand Lodge ceases to exist on the death of its Grand Master, he adds: "A most lame and impotent conclusion. We respectfully ask our learned brethren of New York, where they obtained authority for this declaration, that a Provincial Grand Lodge becomes defunct by the death or resignation of its Provincial Grand Master." We shall suffer ourselves so far to answer this question as to give our "authority," and leave it for others to determine *whose* premises it is that are *false* or *assumed*. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England provides, under the head of "Provincial Grand Lodges," section 7, that: "The Provincial Grand Lodge emanates from the authority vested in the Provincial Grand Master, and and possesses no other powers than those specified. It therefore follows that no provincial Grand Lodge can meet but by the sanction of the Provincial Grand Master, or his deputy, and that *it ceases to exist on the death, resignation, suspension or removal of the Provincial Grand Master, &c.* It may be remarked, that on the reasoning of Brother Brown, the Grand Lodge of Florida was induced to "extend to their brethren of the Grand Lodge of Canada the right hand of fellowship, with fraternal greeting and a hearty welcome into the family of American Grand Lodges." It is a matter of some speculation what apology the undersigned would feel it their duty to make to the Grand Lodge of New York, after having induced this body to recognize an organization in Florida as a Grand Lodge, which was conceived and perfected in hostility to the regular Grand Lodge of that State, and in violation of the most solemn obligations, upon a process of reasoning based upon a fact entirely the converse of that stated, and which fact, if *properly* stated, might have changed the entire course of the Grand Lodge on the whole subject. Should the New York committee be favored with the privilege of reviewing a report another year from the pen of M. W. BROWN, they indulge the hope that it may be couched in such language as will afford us that happiness to review it which

has ever stimulated our examination of the proceedings of the enlightened and illustrious body for which he has spoken.'

"Well, we confess we were somewhat astounded when we read this effusion of the worthy 'undersigned.' We certainly had no desire to cause them *pain*. We could not conceive wherein we had so offended; but, when we came to the *specifications*, all our gravity gave way. We were forcibly reminded of a little juvenile incident, which we once witnessed. A beautiful child came running to her mother, with indignation sparkling in her eyes, exclaiming, 'Oh, mother, brother has called me a bad name.' 'Why, what did he call you, my daughter?' 'He called me a *gal*.' Now, seriously, have we said anything in the charges here made against us that is not true, or that any right thinking brother should have taken offense at?

"Let us see what others have said on the same subject. The Grand Master of Vermont, M. W. Philip C. Tucker, in his annual address, says: 'Within a few days after the Masonic action of the forty-one Lodges at Hamilton, the then Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York *seems evidently to have become alarmed*. Before the infant Grand Lodge of Canada was fairly invested with its swaddling-clothes, he appears perfectly prepared to strangle it in its cradle. Seven days only were suffered to pass before he stigmatized as good men and worthy Masons as the world can boast of as being guilty of Masonic "rebellion," and then sounded the old atabal alarm of "rebellion" at home. Without taking the trouble to distinguish between Canadian and New York "rebellion," he seizes upon the matter *a petitio principii*, assimilated the two unlike cases by a single dash of the pen, raised from their quiet graves the long laid skeletons of "heresy and schism," looked anxiously across the Atlantic to the long-withheld patronizing smile which had a few years past almost emblazoned the waves of old Ocean in its passage from London to New York, and concluded that it would be the "height of ingratitude" to England to do anything else than proscribe the new and independent Grand Lodge of Canada. *The same panic alarm seized his committee on Foreign Correspondence in June following. Leo the 10th and the Cardinals of the Vatican could hardly have been more alarmed at the appearance of the new dogmas of Luther.*'

"The committee of Correspondence of Texas say: 'The brother is mistaken, and we suppose that his *Masonic nerves have been so often shocked by rude assaults upon the integrity of Masonry by the rebellion and insubordination of his own jurisdiction, that he fancies he sees "gorgons, hydras and chimeras dire" in the slightest creak in Masonic machinery elsewhere.*'

"Here are opinions on the same subject, expressed as strongly as anything we have said, by officers of Grand Lodges thousands of miles apart, in the same week. Vermont, on the 14th, in the extreme North-east; Texas, on the 19th, in the extreme Southwest, and Florida, on

the 13th of January, 1857, in the extreme South; and while 'the undersigned' regards what we said as 'reflecting upon them in a manner which forbids us to reply to the report and preserve our *self-respect*,' what the Grand Master of Vermont said passes without a notice; and their reply to Texas is in a spirit as mild and amiable 'as any sucking dove.' But 'the undersigned' did so far condescend as to answer one question in our report. They say: 'The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England provides, under the head of "Provincial Grand Lodges," section 7, that "The Provincial Grand Lodge emanates from the authority vested in the Provincial Grand Master, and possesses no other powers than those specified. It therefore follows that no Provincial Grand Lodge can meet but by the sanction of the Provincial Grand Master, or his deputy, and that it ceases to exist on the death, resignation, suspension, or removal of the Provincial Grand Master."' Now, if this were true, what a degraded condition of Freemasonry in Canada would it present? and what should be said of American Freemasons who would undertake to justify it? But it is not true. All ANCIENT YORK MASONS, in every portion of the world, are governed by the BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS and the 'GENERAL REGULATIONS,' compiled by GEORGE PAYNE in 1720, whilst he was Grand Master, and approved by the Grand Lodge of England in 1721, by SECTION 21 of which it is provided, 'If the Grand Master die during his Mastership, or by sickness, or by being beyond sea, or in any other way should be rendered incapable of discharging his office, the deputy, or, in his absence, the Senior Grand Warden, or, in his absence, the Junior, or, in his absence, any three Past Masters of Lodges, shall join to congregate the Grand Lodge immediately.' So much for the 'authority,' and so much for the exultant exclamation, 'and leave it for others to determine *whose* premises it is that are *false* or *assumed*.'

"But 'the undersigned' very graciously say: 'Should the New York committee be favored with the privilege of reviewing a report another year from the pen of M. W. Brown, they indulge the hope, that it may be *couched in such language* as will afford us that happiness to review it which has ever stimulated our examination of the proceedings of the *enlightened* and *illustrious* body for which he has spoken.'

"We would premise, that our reports have not been written for the purpose of winning compliments from any quarter, not even from the *patronizing* 'undersigned' of the New York committee. But when we have presented anything for the benefit of the Craft in our own jurisdiction which has been regarded by the Fraternity in our sister jurisdictions as worthy of notice and approval, we have always been gratified and grateful. We are not aware that 'Masons' or 'Masonic bodies' in Florida have ever been 'traded by their sister jurisdictions,' or that they have ever been in a position which required the intellectual powers of the 'undersigned' to be exerted in 'defending their acts;' and, whatever may have been the difficulties in regard to

one of the Grand bodies, in this State, we have always understood our position, and felt ourselves fully qualified to maintain and defend it. But, to the *hope indulged in* by 'the undersigned,' we fear we cannot promise them, *even in this report*, 'that happiness to review it' which they seem to anticipate. M. W. BROWN is rather a plain-spoken, straightforward old man, who thinks that language was designed as a medium for the communication of thoughts, not to confound them. He has no acquaintance with the science of *modern diplomacy*, which enables a man to write in a double sense, or to say very offensive things in a very courteous language. For instance, he could not construct such a sentence as this, which we take from the foregoing extract from the committee's report :

"It is a matter of some speculation, what apology the undersigned would feel their duty to make to the Grand Lodge of New York, after having induced this body to recognize an organization in Florida, as a Grand Lodge, which was conceived and perfected in hostility to the regular Grand Lodge of that State, and in violation of the most solemn obligations, upon a process of reasoning based upon a fact entirely the converse of that stated, and which fact, if properly stated, might have changed the entire course of the Grand Lodge on the whole subject'—or in the plain language of common sense, we could not call the members of the Grand Lodge of New York a pack of knaves or fools, and in the next sentence characterize them, as 'an enlightened and illustrious body.' We will give a few more short characteristic extracts from the report before us, and close this portion of our work. In defending the hasty and inconsiderate action of their Grand Master on the Canada question, they say it 'was characterized with unusual ability and profound statesmanship;' but when Wisconsin counsels deliberation, they say :—'A committee, to which had been referred the communication of the "Independent Grand Lodge of Canada," was given until the next annual communication to make their report. There is some difference in the deliberation thus evinced, from the rashness which would impel a Grand Lodge to recognize this new body, on *ex parte* evidence, which speaks well for the statesmanship of Wisconsin.'

"In regard to accuracy, they are not more fortunate. They say :

"The opinions of the Grand Lodges of the United States in respect to the new organization in Canada, have been quite generally expressed; and while all agree that it would be desirable for the Fraternity in the Provinces to be allowed to have their own Grand Lodge, and to elect their own officers, independent of foreign control, there is a large preponderance of opinion that the course pursued by the brethren at Hamilton was not demanded by the circumstances or justified in Masonic law. Among those which hold this view are those of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Louisiana, Missouri, Maryland, Alabama, Virginia, Massachusetts, and Georgia. Doubting the regularity of the course pursued, yet, unwilling to close the door

to a recognition, the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Connecticut have deferred definite action upon the subject to a future time. While Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont, District of Columbia, Texas, and Florida have recognized the new organization. There may be other Grand Lodges which have expressed opinions on the subject; but, if so, they have escaped our recollection.'

"We will, from their own report, prove the inaccuracy of this statement. Maine is put at the head of the *repudiating* list. Now here is what the 'undersigned' say about Maine:

"We have long recognized in Brother PEARL, one of our soundest Masonic writers, and the present report will in nowise detract from this character, unless we may make some allowance for the slight diversion which his republican sympathies, and large benevolence have induced him to make, in behalf of our friends in Canada, who have started the new organization there. It appears, however, that his Grand Lodge did not as "cordially grasp the 'right hand of brotherhood' extended to them by the Canadian body," as he had anticipated. They deferred action upon the resolutions on this subject, until the next annual communication.'

"Connecticut is placed on the *doubtful* list; but we place it here on account of *family resemblance*:

"An elaborate, learned and very valuable report on Foreign Correspondence is appended to the proceedings, covering some ninety-three pages, and is from the pen of a Masonic light, which glows with increased radiance as each revolving year presents it to our notice. Brother Wm. Storer is a fixture in the galaxy which spans the Masonic firmament. It appears that his large benevolence, and warm republicanism, induced him to present a resolution recognizing the new body in Canada, calling itself a Grand Lodge; but the Grand Lodge of his State arrived at a different conclusion, and his resolution, on this subject, was not adopted.'

"But the resolution was unanimously adopted, and here it is:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has learned with satisfaction the fact that an Independent Grand Lodge has been organized in the Province of Canada; that we recognize said organization as a legally constituted Grand Lodge, and do cordially welcome her into the great family of American Grand Lodges.'

"Of New Hampshire, they say:

"We notice a series of resolutions which were adopted by the Grand Lodge, among which is one expressing the opinion that "this Grand Lodge deems it proper and Masonic to refrain from any expression of opinion on the subject (of the pretended Grand Lodge of Canada), and that no recognition of, or intercourse with the said Grand Lodge of Canada should be had by this Grand Lodge or any of its subordinate Lodges." Such is the opinion of New York, Massachusetts, and several other Grand Lodges.'

"We thought it strange that the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire

should have committed such an absurdity as to declare that it 'deems it proper and Masonic to refrain from any expression of opinion,' &c., and in the same sentence express the strongest opinion that could be given by declaring it '*the pretended Grand Lodge of Canada*,' and the term was so much like the *stereotype* expressions of the New York committee, whenever they have occasion to speak of the Grand Lodge of Canada, that we determined to refer to the original resolution, which we here copy *verbatim* :

"*Resolved*, By the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, that, until advised of the action of the M. W. Grand Lodge of England, on the alleged grievances of our brethren in Canada, this Grand Lodge deems it proper and Masonic to refrain from any expression of opinion on the subject; and that no recognition of, or intercourse with the said "Grand Lodge of Canada" should be had by this Grand Lodge or any of its subordinate Lodges.'

"It will be seen that the *interlarding* was a redundancy, and not required to make the resolution more explicit, as the word 'Canada' immediately followed.

"Louisiana is placed on the list of *repudiating* Lodges. Now, what is there in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, to justify such a misrepresentation of her views? At her annual communication in February, 1857, her committee of Correspondence say :

"Your committee, toward the conclusion of their report of last year, embodied in full the communication from Canada, and say, that "taking all that is stated in the Canada document as strictly correct (as we fully believe is the case), we think the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada right and proper, and that this Grand Lodge ought at once to tender to her the right hand of fellowship." But as our report of last year was made after the close of the Grand Lodge, it had no opportunity to express its views thereon.'

"And then the committee present an argument in reply to the argument of the Massachusetts committee which leaves them less than the 'shade of a shadow' to creep under. But it would be a waste of time to press this *exposé* further. We have ample authority for saying that a very 'large preponderance' of the Grand Lodge have recognized the Grand Lodge of Canada as a legitimate Grand Lodge, and that not a Grand Lodge in the Union has 'put forth' an argument in support of the position taken by New York and Massachusetts; and that precious few of the Grand Lodges have taken *their* arguments upon *trust*. Whilst 'we can scarcely open a copy of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodges as they come into the Grand Secretary's office, but we find' powerful arguments in support of the Canadian Masons, in the organization of an Independent Grand Lodge in Canada. Except New York and Massachusetts, the only Grand Lodges that have declined to recognize the Grand Lodge of Canada, without the sanction of the Grand Lodge of England, are New Hampshire, Missouri, Alabama, Virginia and Georgia; and we have good reasons for believing that

before the *Ides of March*, New York and Massachusetts will find themselves standing alone in their opposition.

"We now approach the consideration of the ARTICLES OF UNION, and as it involves a question of eminent concern to the whole body of the Fraternity of the United States, one in which the harmony and peace of the Order is deeply involved, we propose to present a condensed account of the action of the two bodies on this subject, as far as the proceedings before us will allow of, for the information of the members of the Grand Lodge, and the Craft generally in this jurisdiction.

"On the 6th day of June, 1856, the '*Willard*' Grand Lodge of New York *unanimously* adopted the following resolution :

" '*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, for the purpose of preparing and presenting some suitable plan for the settlement of any difficulties that may exist among the Masons in this State, if the same be practicable, and report at their earliest convenience.'

"Whereupon, the following brothers were appointed by the Grand Master : R. W. and REV. SALEM TOWN, R. W. and REV. JOHN GRAY, R. W. ROBT. MACOY, W. ANDREAS CASSARD, and W. H. W. TURNER, and a certified copy of the resolution, and of the names of the committee, was officially communicated by the R. W. Grand Secretary, JAMES M. AUSTIN, to the '*Philips*' Grand Lodge ; in response to which, that Grand Lodge appointed R. W. EDWARD COOK, R. W. JOHN A. KENNEDY, and R. W. JAMES JENKINSON, a committee on its part, and to act jointly with the committee of the other Grand Lodge. The committees had frequent meetings, as a joint committee of the two bodies, and labored diligently and harmoniously. And on the second day of June, both Grand Lodges being in annual communication, the R. W. Edward Cook, chairman of special committee of Conference, made the following report, which was accepted :

" 'The committee appointed on the difficulties of 1849, and to confer with any committee from the other body claiming to be the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, respectfully report:-

" 'That they were officially notified soon after the last June communication, that a committee from the other body had been duly appointed "to prepare a plan for the arrangement of any difficulties amongst the Fraternity," said committee being composed of R. W. Bros. Salem Town, Robert Macoy, John Gray, Andreas Cassard, and W. Bro. Henry W. Turner.

" 'Your committee further report, that the two committees entered upon the discharge of their important duties zealously, and in good faith, and with a sincere desire to terminate all Masonic differences between the brethren in this jurisdiction, to the end that harmony and brotherly love may for the future forever prevail.

" 'Your committee further report, that the two committees had numerous meetings, at which the whole subject of the differences of the

Fraternity was discussed in a kind and brotherly spirit, and they finally agreed upon the "Articles of Union" as herewith appended.

"Your committee beg leave to say, that they do not present these "Articles of Union" as containing all for which this Grand body has heretofore contended, but, as in all compromises, each party must give up some portion of his claims, so we believe these "Articles of Union" are such as this Grand body may with honor adopt as a final adjustment of all Masonic differences in the State of New York. All which is respectfully submitted,

"EDWARD COOK,
"JOHN A. KENNEDY, } Committee.
"JAMES JENKISON,

"WHEREAS, Certain events, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, have produced the existence of two bodies, each claiming to be the Grand Lodge of the State of New York ; and,

"WHEREAS, The honor, usefulness and beneficent objects of the Institution have suffered, and are now suffering by reason of the differences and disagreements among the Fraternity of this State ;

"Now, therefore, the undersigned committees, appointed by the two bodies of Masonry hereinafter mentioned, in view of amicably and permanently ending such differences and disagreements, to the end that the harmony which is compatible with the true principles of Freemasonry may prevail, do mutually consent and interchangeably subscribe to the following ARTICLES OF UNION, as a proper and equitable manner of ending such differences and disagreements.

"And if said ARTICLES OF UNION are adopted and confirmed by the bodies respectively, to wit : The body known as the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which JOHN L. LEWIS, Jr., is Grand Master, and the body known as the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which MORDECAI MYERS is Grand Master, then these ARTICLES OF UNION shall be considered and constituted a fundamental law of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

"1. That there shall be but one Grand Lodge in the State of New York.

"2. That all proceedings had in relation to suspensions or expulsions, arising out of transactions known as the "DIFFICULTIES OF 1849," shall be and are hereby rescinded, and all such persons as may have been so suspended or expelled, are hereby restored to full membership, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry. The proceedings of either body, in their legislative or judicial capacity, where they do not conflict with each other, are hereby confirmed.

"3. That all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of both bodies shall be considered as Past Grand Officers, and recognized as such. For the purpose of obviating embarrassments in cases where Lodges in both bodies have the same number, the following plan shall be

adopted : If the two Lodges bearing the same number cannot mutually agree to consolidate into one Lodge, then the Lodge having the original warrant, or warrant of senior date, shall retain its number, while the other Lodge shall change its number and pass to the next junior vacant number in the list of Lodges, and its warrant shall be so numbered, endorsed, and registered.

“ ‘ 4. That all suits at law, of whatever nature and kind, arising out of the aforesaid “ Difficulties of 1849,” shall be withdrawn and discontinued. The expenses of both parties shall be paid from the fund known as the “ PERMANENT FUND,” and the balance of the moneys of the said Permanent Fund, together with all interest accruing thereon, and all other moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge on the 5th of June, A. L. 5849, shall be paid into and become, and are hereby constituted a part of the Fund known as the “ HALL AND ASYLUM FUND,” and the Trustees are hereby authorized to make the transfer. The Hall and Asylum Fund, now held in trust by the Grand Lodge, together with the moneys above-named, shall remain intact, and be applied, with such additions and accumulations as may hereafter be made thereto, to the purposes for which said fund was created.

“ ‘ 5. That the Grand Lodge shall be composed of all the Grand Officers, and of all such Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens, Past Grand Secretaries, and Past Grand Treasurers as shall have been elected and installed in this jurisdiction prior to June, A. L. 5849, and of the Masters and Wardens, or the representatives, legally appointed, of all the Lodges under this jurisdiction ; and of all such Past Masters of Lodges under this jurisdiction as shall have been elected, installed, and served one year in the chair as Master, prior to December 31st, A. L. 5849.

“ ‘ 6. The Constitution and General Regulations shall be referred to a committee of three from each body, who shall mutually report, during the annual session of A. L. 5857, such form of Constitutions and General Regulations as may be deemed best suited to the condition of the Fraternity, and not in violation of these Articles ; which Constitutions and General Regulations may be adopted at the said communication of A. L. 5857, and as further provided by the Constitution ; until the final adoption of which, the Constitution, as at present in force in this Grand Lodge, shall remain in force, except so far as it may be affected by these Articles.

“ ‘ 7. Any future amendments to the Constitution or General Regulations of the Grand Lodge must have a prospective action, and cannot affect the rights, privileges, or franchises which any member thereof may have acquired.

“ ‘ 8. On the ratification of these Articles of Union by the above-named bodies, they and all their several subordinates shall be considered of equally regular Masonic standing, and as such are hereby declared united in Masonic fellowship, under common jurisdiction, and

entitled to all those rights and privileges pertaining to the Fraternity as freely and fully as though no schism had heretofore occurred.'

"On the 4th day of June, 'the Articles of Union' as reported by the special committee were taken up for action, on motion of M. W. Isaac Phillips, P. G. M., who then spoke to the following effect: That he was most anxious for peace, harmony and Union,—that all harsh or unkind feelings, if he ever had any towards the brethren 'on the other side,' had, by lapse of time, become extinct; and as the committee had agreed, he hoped a unanimous ratification would be given to the 'Articles of Union' proposed. That although he yielded his acquiescence, it was not a cordial, but a bitter draught: for he felt we were abandoning in the Past Master's question a sacred and holy principle—any compromise of which overwhelmed him with pain and humiliation. That the other details proposed were not of the slightest consequence, and he would cheerfully vote for any satisfactory plan agreed on by the committee, as to the money affairs, suits at law, recognition of warrants, &c., &c. That he was willing to make the great sacrifice as to Past Masters, *solely* in the hope that peace would be promoted and that our brethren would no longer remain distracted, and the influence of the Order in this State destroyed at home and abroad;—and to show the Masonic World that we were willing to do anything *possible* to end the unhappy discord in an honorable manner, he offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That although as members of the Grand Lodge, we cannot entirely approve of the details of the Articles of Union, proposed by the joint committee, by reason of some of them yielding up ancient rights and privileges and involving the sacrifice of principles most sacred and dear, yet we deem it our duty, as members of the Fraternity at large, for the purpose of promoting peace and harmony, brotherly love and union, not only throughout this jurisdiction, but amongst the Craft throughout the globe, to declare in favor of the Articles as concurred in by the committee of this Grand Lodge, and we do therefore hereby ratify and adopt the same.

"The Grand Secretary, on rising to second the resolution, said: 'I rise M. W. to second the motion of the M. W. Past Grand Master, and perfectly agree with him in his views. *I second the motion*, not because "The Articles of Union" agreed upon by the two committees are such as *we had a right to expect*, but, *because the two committees have agreed to them*; and because I believe the Fraternity of this State, both sections of the Fraternity, who desire peace and harmony, are willing to agree to them as an adjustment of our difficulties on honorable and equitable terms.'

"The resolution, after due consideration, was put to the vote and declared unanimously adopted.

"To which we will add the closing address of the M. W. Grand Master, Mordecai Myers, on retiring from office. He said:

"'Before leaving the honorable station which I have at your request held for the last four years—a station heretofore held by some of the

most talented and honorable men of the nation, who have given testimony in favor of the purity, excellence, and usefulness of the principles which Masonry inculcates—a station occupied by the Honorable ROBERT B. LIVINGSTON, Chancellor of the State, as first Grand Master under the present Constitution, succeeded by JACOB MORTON, DE WITT CLINTON, DANIEL D. TOMPKINS, MARTIN HOFFMAN, ELISHA W. KING, STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, MORGAN LEWIS, ALEXANDER H. ROBERTSON, JOHN D. WILARD, and ISAAC PHILLIPS, it was no small honor, when by your votes I was called to succeed in office such illustrious men.

“I had held several minor offices up to Deputy Grand Master, and in adverse times, was called to the station I now retire from.

“We had met with difficulties before; among others, the “Morgan excitement,” but we outlived them. In the time of that excitement the country Lodges relied upon their city brethren. Their reliance was not misplaced. The money they brought they took back, and more. Money accumulated—country members would like to circulate it. There never was any charge brought against the Past Masters, but their *numbers*. There was never any charge against the city Lodges for doing a wrong or improper act; but there appeared to be a jealousy about the amount of money, which, if they could remove the Grand Lodge to Utica or Rochester, they could circulate there. The city Lodges had the power, but had never used it. What they did at night the country Lodges could repeal on the morrow.

“It is the privilege of old age to be prolix in words and writing. I shall forego that privilege, and take as little of the time of this prolonged session as possible, and only give my testimony to the Masonic world, that from the commencement of the difficulties in 1849, which gave rise to a body of seceding Masons, calling themselves the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, this Grand Lodge has at all times held out the olive branch, and was at all times, and is yet ready to make any sacrifice, consistent with its dignity, on the altar of peace; and by its ratification of the Report of the Joint Committee of the two bodies, acting on terms of equity, has by a unanimous vote, given an additional proof of its sincere desire, at the sacrifice of important principles, to unite with the brethren of the other body of Masons claiming to be the Grand Lodge, so that litigation might cease, and the large amount of funds accumulated, mostly from the Lodges in the city and its vicinity, might be realized, and bestowed on their legitimate objects—the relief of widows, orphans, the aged and infirm. But it is understood that the other body of Masons, calling themselves the Grand Lodge of the State, has, by a large majority, rejected the “Articles of Union” proposed by the joint committees. It is understood that most of the country Lodges voted in the negative, and most of the city Lodges in the affirmative. Charity compels me to hope that they have done so from good Masonic motives.

"We now turn to the proceedings had in the 'WILLARD' Grand Lodge on this subject. W. Bro. H. W. Turner, from the committee appointed at the last annual communication on Masonic differences, offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the report of the committee appointed at the last annual session of the Grand Lodge, for the settlement of any differences which may exist among the Masons of this State, be received and laid upon the table until seven o'clock this evening, at which time it shall be taken from the table, without motion, and its disposition is made the special order of business at that time."

"Which after sundry motions, was referred to the committee on the 'Condition of Masonry,' with instructions to report on the 'ARTICLES OF UNION' at nine o'clock to-morrow (4th June). 'R. W. Robert Macoy, from the special committee appointed on Masonic differences in New York, asked leave to present a written report from that committee, as the "Articles of Union" were presented with a verbal report only,' which was granted, and the following report was presented :

"To the M. W. Grand Master and R. W. Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York :

"The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, under the following resolutions :

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, for the purpose of preparing and presenting some suitable and proper plan for a settlement of any differences that may exist among the Masons of this State, if the same be practicable, to report at their earliest convenience ;"

"Resolved, That the committee to prepare a plan for the arrangement of any difficulties amongst the Fraternity, have leave to report, after the close of the Grand Lodge to the Grand Officers, and the Grand Officers are hereby clothed with power to carry into effect any proper measures proposed to accomplish the object in view," beg leave

"Respectfully to report:

"That, being conscious of the magnitude of the trust committed to them, and of the importance devolving upon a mature and careful deliberation on the subject, they entered upon the discharge of the graver and critical question with nervous apprehensions of its delicacy—a dread of its consequences, but a firm and honest determination, with a love of harmony in the Order, to do the best they could.

"Preliminary meetings of the committee were held immediately after the close of the annual session in June last, at all of which our venerable chairman, SALEM TOWN, was present, where we entered at once upon the consideration of the topic with which we were charged. Viewing the subject retrospectively only for the purpose of arriving at

the *cause* of the "differences," your committee discovered but one essential point of difference, to wit: the validity or invalidity of the M. W. Grand Lodge in 1849, in changing the Constitution, whereby certain members thereof were deprived of privileges previously enjoyed. On looking back to the time when our troubles had their origin, we saw them pregnant of strifes, jealousies, bickerings, contestations, and schisms, all of which are repugnant to an institution having the glorious attribute of "Brotherly Love" as one of its vital principles, and which "unites men of every country, sect, and *opinion*." Your committee determined to let the past rest in the "gulf of dark forgetfulness," and look to the future for that peace, brotherly love, and charity which are compatible with the genuine principles of Freemasonry—also a proper means of permanently ending the differences that exist among the Masons of this State. Your committee further believe, that should the questions which now divide the Fraternity be adjusted in the spirit of mutual concessions, charitable forgiveness, and an entire forgetfulness of the past, harmony, union, and amicable fellowship would again prevail throughout our unfortunate jurisdiction; therefore, your committee did *unanimously* agree, as an *ultimatum* (without reference to former differences), to offer the restoration to membership in the Grand Lodge of all such Past Masters of Lodges under this jurisdiction as should have been elected, installed, and served one year in the chair as Master, prior to December 31, 1849.

"With this *ultimatum* as a peace-offering, and having possessed themselves of the experience and action of other committees appointed, from time to time, for the same duties as delegated to us, when articles almost identical with those hereto annexed were *offered*, discussed and finally rejected, the parties separating because of their inability to agree, and when quibbles and technicalities were often the interposing obstacles to a harmonious attention to the duties for which they were appointed—your committee met and entered upon the discharge of the important and pleasing duties in connection with the committee from the other house, and in good faith, of "presenting some suitable and proper plan for a settlement of any differences that may exist among the Masons of this State."

"It is here proper to say, that the conferences held with the committee, now Masonically estranged from us, were of the most friendly and gentlemanly character: true feelings for a proper reconciliation of *all* the differences existing among us, characterized our deliberations. But one determination seemed to actuate our joint efforts—union of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York into one common brotherhood; and so satisfactory were our negotiations, that but three sittings of the committee were required for the completion of their labors.

"In reviewing the subject with which we are charged, and desirous of being informed on questions of Masonic history analogous to our own condition, research was instituted with the following results, as precedents to assist in establishing our line of action, to wit: In 1792

an amicable union of the two Grand Lodges then existing in Massachusetts was had. This schism existed in that State for upwards of a quarter of a century. A union of two Grand Lodges took place in South Carolina in 1808. "The harmony thus restored to the Masonic body in this State (South Carolina) unfortunately did not continue long. In the succeeding year, one of the subordinate Lodges in town withdrew from the union, and, with some of the country Lodges, removed and reorganized the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, under the old act of incorporation. Thus were the family again divided, and two Grand Lodges, having permanent authority, again ruled in South Carolina, without any other difference between them than the name by which they were severally designated."

"The differences which kept apart the Fraternity in that State were known to be so unimportant, that an earnest desire to effect a union was felt, and oftentimes expressed, by several enlightened and influential members of both Grand Lodges. It was well known to many of the brethren that there was no difference in the work of discipline; that each body was acquainted with the same *marks of distinction*, and that the brethren of either body could, and many of them did, visit the other, consistently with their obligations. And, when the subject came to be officially investigated, it was a matter of astonishment to many that the Masonic family had been so long divided. Various efforts were made at different times to unite the two Grand Lodges, but without success. The friends of the union, however, were not discouraged. They persevered in their efforts until they accomplished the earnest desire of their hearts. Committees were appointed for the purpose by both Grand Lodges, who, on the 5th of September, 1808, adopted the Articles of Union between the two Grand Lodges of South Carolina.

"While brother was again arrayed against brother, in that State, the brethren in England, under the influence of the best feelings of the human heart, anxiously desired the restoration of harmony to their divided family, and a union of all their members in the same mystic circle of Fraternal love. The effort was made and succeeded. The old Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons were happily united on the 25th of November, 1813, and the union solemnly ratified and confirmed by both Grand Lodges, December 1st, 1813. The United Lodge was formed December 27th, 1813, and is designated by the title of the "United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England."

"So illustrious an example could not fail to make a deep impression on the feelings of the Fraternity. Every friend of man rejoiced at the restoration of peace and harmony to so large and so respectable a portion of the Masonic world. The flame of brotherly love re-kindled in the hearts of the Fraternity in Carolina. Every brother wished a reunion of the Craft. Several of our most respectable brethren exerted their influence to accomplish it. At length the two Grand Lodges appointed committees to meet together in free and brotherly conference

on the subject of a union so mutually desirable. Several meetings were held for the purpose, until they finally agreed, on the 11th of January, 1817, to the Articles of Union between the two Grand Lodges of South Carolina.

“In our own State, the seeds of discord, which were so plentifully sown, grew into bitter hostilities among the Craft, and in the year 1823 a division of the Fraternity took place, which resulted in the formation of two Grand Lodges. This unfortunate state of affairs continued until 1827, when, impelled by the violent opposition raised by anti-Masonry, the two Grand Lodges sought mutual protection and safety from the whirlwind of fanaticism, by reunion, and they entered into a compact whereby they settled all past differences at the same June communication, and agreed to go on for the future harmoniously. Notwithstanding this act of union combined within itself elements of a revolutionary character, as the same article in relation to amendments to the constitution was in full and binding force then as now, yet that act has never been regarded as unlawful or unmasonic—necessity compelled—therefore revolution was inevitable.

“Again, in 1850, another union of the Masons of this State took place, between the Grand Lodge of the State of New York and the St. John's Grand Lodge, the result of which has been peculiarly advantageous to the Order in this jurisdiction.

“The above are among the leading cases of arranging differences that existed among the Fraternity in their respective locations. The action of your committee has been based upon a conscientious intention to settle and end our differences, and depending upon the relevancy of those very distinguished authorities, we have no hesitation in offering the annexed Articles of Union, the presentation of which to the M. W. Grand Lodge, your committee would respectfully ask, and sincerely pray that they may be adopted by that body. The respective advantages that must, of necessity, result from their adoption, among others, are that the whole Fraternity of the Empire State will be united, whereby we may once more occupy an honorable position among our sister jurisdictions. The moneys now in litigation will revert to their legitimate channels, in aiding the widows and orphans, and the distressed brother Masons. The Grand Lodge may become an incorporated body, thereby capable of holding property, and in the future easily preventing schisms.

“The settlement of our difficulties, also, harmonizes all differences in the Chapter and Encampment breaches of the Order, thus showing New York, in every department of Masonry, as one entire and complete organization.

Respectfully presented,

“SALEM TOWN,
“ROBERT MACOY,
“JOHN GRAY,
“HENRY W. TURNER,
“ANDREAS CASSARD.

“ ‘4TH OF JUNE, 9 O’CLOCK, A. M.—R. W. Stephen H. Johnson, from the committee on the Condition of Masonry, to whom was referred the “Articles of Union,” presented the following report :

“ ‘To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York :

“ ‘The committee on the Condition of Masonry, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master, as relates to the proposed Articles of Union, together with said articles agreed upon by the committee appointed at the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge,

“ ‘Respectfully report :

“ ‘That they have had the subject under consideration, and have given the same as full and careful an investigation as the time allowed would permit.

“ ‘Your committee fully coincide in the desire expressed by very many of our Masonic brethren, that a perfect union of all who lay claim to the Masonic name in this State should be effected, and are anxious to aid in the consummation of so desirable an event.

“ ‘But, while thus actuated, they feel that the self-respect of each individual Mason hailing from this Grand Lodge, and more especially the respect due to this Grand Lodge, as a body, forbid the consummation of any agreement or measure whereby its dignity, honor, and interest may in the slightest degree be tarnished or imperiled.

“ ‘The committee have not deemed it necessary to enter into detail of the cause which originally led to the unhappy divisions which exist within our Masonic jurisdiction.

“ ‘The origin of these difficulties is fully understood by the members of the Fraternity of that period ; and those who have become members at a more recent date, it will be sufficient to refer to the report of a committee of sixteen, having date June 11th, 1849, appointed by this Grand Lodge, on the 7th day of June, 1849.

“ ‘Your committee have arrived at the conclusion, that the Articles of Union, as reported by the committee appointed to prepare “some suitable and proper plan for a settlement of any differences that may exist among the Masons of this State, if the same be practicable,” ought not to be entertained by this Grand Lodge, for the following reasons :

“ ‘1st. It is proposed that the Articles of Union shall be considered and constituted a fundamental law of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

“ ‘The term *fundamental law*, your committee understand, is construed by the committee from whom the articles emanate to mean a law that cannot be abrogated, or changed at any subsequent communication of the Grand Lodge.

“‘ It is submitted, with all due deference to the committee referred to, who have consented to the proposed articles, that this Grand Lodge possesses no such power.

“‘ 2d. The proposed articles conflict with the present Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and cannot be carried into effect without an amendment of that instrument ; that can only be done in the manner prescribed by section 125.

“‘ By the articles, it is proposed to constitute, as members of the Grand Lodge, all Past Masters of Lodges under this jurisdiction, who had served one year in the chair, as Master, prior to 1849, and that too at the present communication; whereas, by the present constitution, all such Past Masters are excluded. It follows, therefore, that the adoption of the proposed articles would be a palpable violation of fundamental law of this Grand Lodge. But, were this possible, could this Grand Lodge retract its position taken in 1848, adopted in 1849, after having received the approval of a large majority of the subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction, and maintained, during the subsequent years, up to this hour, without dishonor to itself, and insult to those Grand Lodges in the United States, and throughout the world, who have so decidedly sustained and cheered us on our course through these eventful years.

“‘ If the Grand Lodge was right then, in the adoption of the amendments of the constitution, relating to Past Masters, we are clearly right in sustaining them now; no cause or circumstance having transpired since that time calling for an alteration or abrogation of that amendment.

“‘ 3d. By the fifth Article of Union, all the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretaries, and Grand Treasurers, who have been elected by this Grand Lodge, since 1849, are disqualified as members of the Grand Lodge.

“‘ That this Grand Lodge has the right to declare, in a constitutional manner, who shall compose the Grand Lodge, your committee do not deny ; but they are unwilling that any of those beloved and illustrious brothers should, by any act of this Grand Lodge, be turned away from the doors of its yearly convocations. They see no reason or excuse for such an act.

“‘ 4th. By the seventh Article of Union, “any future amendments to the constitution, or general regulations of the Grand Lodge, must have a prospective action, and cannot affect the rights, privileges, and franchises which any member thereof may have acquired.” This article, your committee deem utterly subversive of the principles of true legislation and government. That power which can make can unmake; the power which creates can destroy. All the rights, privileges or franchises which any member of this Grand Lodge enjoys, he has

acquired through the action of the Grand Lodge, and in no other manner. No member has any inherent or inalienable rights or privileges. Whatever rights, privileges, or franchises he may enjoy, have been derived from the Grand Lodge, and that body may, in a constitutional manner, at its own pleasure, withdraw them, although, perhaps, it might not be policy to do so.

“The committee deeply regret the position in which the Fraternity, in this State, are placed, in consequence of the unhappy division of 1849. We would gladly see peace and harmony restored within our borders, and are willing to lend our aid to the utmost, to bring about a reconciliation. We feel, however, that the fault does not lie at the door of our Grand Lodge. We are driven to our present position by the action of the seceders of 1849. Yet the committee are not disposed to cast reflections upon their past course. While we are willing to extend the olive branch of peace to them, a large majority of whom we would rejoice to hail as brethren, and welcome as members of our Grand Lodge, we cannot forget our obligations, as Masons, to support the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, nor can we consent to any infringement of its provisions for any cause whatever.

“In rejecting the basis of union submitted, it does not follow, nor is it to be inferred that this Grand Lodge is unwilling to ratify a union—the only point decided will be, the improper basis proposed. A large majority, nearly the whole body, desire a union, and the consequent peace and harmony which is expected to result therefrom, but that peace and that harmony can only be secured by a Masonic, and consequently constitutional, basis of union. Any other than such a basis would produce discord and confusion.

“Can this be done? Your committee are of the opinion that it can, but only when the parties place themselves in a proper position. This, if they view the matter aright, can be done without lowering their position of self-respect, which, in the opinion of your committee, would be unmasonic to ask from them.

“The healing of those who have been irregularly made, by a general resolution, would in the opinion of your committee, be a violation of the fundamental principles of Masonry, and therefore cannot receive our assent. We are aware that this is a delicate subject, and one to which we would not allude but for the necessity of the case. It may be said to be no fault of theirs, but their misfortune, that they are the victims of designing men, who, taking advantage of the “favorable opinion entertained of the institution,” they have been induced to apply to the proper source, find themselves in a wrong position; shall we do less than to point out their true position, and lead them to the avenue through which they can be placed in a true Masonic position. Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

“ ‘Resolved, That the Articles of Union agreed upon by the committee for the Adjustment of Masonic Difficulties in the State of New York, do not meet the approbation of this Grand Lodge.

“ ‘All of which is respectfully submitted,

“ ‘S. H. JOHNSON,
“ ‘H. C. VOGEL,
“ ‘WM. SHAPCOTT,
“ ‘JAMES B. TAYLOR,
“ ‘C. F. PAIGE,
“ ‘THOS. S. POPE,
“ ‘N. J. JOHNSON.

“ ‘Which was received, and on motion it was ordered that the vote on the resolution reported by the committee be taken this evening at five o'clock, by a vote of Lodges, and that each speaker be limited to ten minutes ;’ and accordingly at five o'clock, P. M., the vote was taken, and resulted for the resolution reported by the committee on the ‘Condition of Masonry’ 780, and against it, 247, and thus the ‘ARTICLES OF UNION’ were rejected.

“ Regarding the manner in which the ‘Articles of Union’ were rejected, the question naturally arises, what object had the ‘WILLARD’ party in offering a settlement of *the difficulties existing in New York*? Was the proposition made in good faith ; or was it made relying on its rejection, which would throw the odium of the New York difficulties upon the ‘PHILLIPS’ party? Or, had they a more unworthy purpose in view—to delude them, through their anxiety for peace and harmony, into the concession of principles they regarded humiliating, and then reject them, thereby closing forever the door of reconciliation? Hear the caution of their Worthy Grand Master on this subject. He says :

“ ‘Aside from the high character and Masonic worth of the committee, it should be remembered, that they have been intrusted with an important and responsible, but delicate duty, and have endeavored faithfully and honestly to discharge it. To pass condemnation upon those who act thus as our agents, because we differ from their views, is to cause others forever to shrink from a like post of duty, and to bar every avenue in future to conciliation.’

“ That the ‘WILLARD’ party did manifest such an *intolerant partisan spirit* is proven by their proceedings, and contrasts most unfavorably with the *true Masonic character* displayed by the other party. Their committee say in their report, ‘they do not present these “Articles of Union” as containing all for which this Grand Lodge has heretofore contended, but as, in all compromises, each party must give up some portion of its claims, so we believe these “Articles of Union” are such as this Grand body may with honor adopt as a final adjustment of all Masonic differences in the State of New York.’ Past Grand Master Phillips said : ‘He was most anxious for peace, harmony, and union ;

that all harsh or unkind feelings, if he ever had any, towards the brethren "on the other side," had by lapse of time, become extinct; and, as the committee had agreed, he hoped an unanimous ratification would be given to the Articles of Union proposed, to show the Masonic world that we were willing to do anything *possible* to end the unhappy discord in an honorable manner.' The veteran Grand Secretary, R. W. James Herring, said: 'I second the motion, not because the "Articles of Union" agreed upon by the two committees are such as we had a right to expect, but because the two committees have agreed to them, and because I believe the Fraternity of the State—both sections of the Fraternity—who desire peace and harmony are willing to agree to them as an adjustment of our difficulties on honorable and equitable terms.' And the venerable Grand Master, M. W. Mordecai Myers, said: 'This Grand Lodge has at all times held out the olive branch, and was at all times and is yet ready to make any sacrifice, consistent with its dignity, on the altar of peace.' And the committee of the 'WILLARD' Grand Lodge, at the head of which was the reverend and venerable SALEM TOWN, in their report, say: 'That, being conscious of the magnitude of, the trust committed to them, and of the importance devolving upon a mature and careful deliberation of the subject, they entered upon the discharge of the grave and critical question with nervous apprehensions of its delicacy—a dread of its consequences, but a firm and honest determination, with a love of harmony in the Order, to do the best they could.' And they conclude their report with the assurance that 'the action of your committee has been based upon a conscientious intention to settle and end our differences, and, depending upon the relevancy of those very distinguished authorities, we have no hesitation in offering the annexed Articles of Union, the presentation of which to the M. W. Grand Lodge your committee would respectfully ask, and sincerely pray that they may be adopted by that body. The respective advantages that must of necessity result from their adoption, among others, are that the whole Fraternity of the Empire State will be united, whereby we may once more occupy an honorable position among our sister jurisdictions.' Now, here is the declaration of five of the most enlightened and experienced Masons in the 'Willard' Grand Lodge that the 'Articles of Union, were such as they ought to receive and adopt, to 'unite the whole Fraternity in the Empire State,' and cause us 'once more to occupy an honorable position among our sister jurisdictions.' And how were the prayers of their committee and the work of the joint committee, which had cost months of labor and anxious thought, disposed of? Not even permitted to be read or considered in the Grand Lodge, but referred to a committee on the 'Condition of Masonry,' with instructions to report to-morrow at nine o'clock, A. M.; and punctually they reported, 'That they have had the subject under consideration, and have given to the same as full and careful an investigation as the time allowed

would permit,' and 'they feel that the self-respect of each individual Mason hailing from this Grand Lodge, and more especially the respect due to this Grand Lodge as a body, forbid the consummation of any agreement or measure whereby its dignity, honor, and interest may in the slightest degree be tarnished or imperiled ;' and, after this flippant outpouring of *feeling*, they 'arrive at the conclusion that the "Articles of Union" ought not to be entertained by this Grand Lodge, for the following reasons :

" '1st. It is proposed that the "Articles of Union" shall be considered and constituted a fundamental law of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. The term *fundamental law*, your committee understand, is *construed* by the committee from whom the Articles of Union emanate, to mean a law that cannot be abrogated or changed at any subsequent communication of the Grand Lodge.' Now, we do not know which most to admire, the Parliamentary knowledge, or the *precaution* of this sage committee. One thing we will presume, however, that it was never held in contemplation, that any compact of union which might be determined upon by the two Grand Lodges could be '*abrogated or changed* at any subsequent communication of the Grand Lodge' by one of the parties without the consent of the other.

" '2d. The proposed Articles conflict with the present Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and cannot be carried into effect without an amendment of that instrument, that can only be done in the manner prescribed by Section 125.' Well, a resolution to amend the Constitution was passed at that very session of the Grand Lodge (see page of the proceedings 160), and the Articles of Union also make a provision on that subject.

" '3d. By the fifth Article of Union, all the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretaries, and Grand Treasurers who have been elected by this Grand Lodge since 1849, are disqualified as members of the Grand Lodge.' They admit the power, 'but they are unwilling that any of those beloved and illustrious brothers should, by any act of this Grand Lodge, be turned away from the doors of its yearly convocations.' This is certainly very *cogent* reasoning, and very fraternal.

" '4th. By the seventh Article of Union, "any further amendments to the Constitution or General Regulations of the Grand Lodge must have a prospective action, and cannot affect the rights, privileges, and franchises which any member thereof may have acquired." This article your committee deem *utterly subversive of the principles of true legislation and government*. The power which can *make* can *unmake*—the power which *creates* can *destroy*.' There were men, in days gone by,

more experienced in the science of 'legislation and government' than any of the wise men who constituted the committee on the 'condition of Masonry,' who considered *retrospective legislation* so abhorrent to principles of free government as to engraft a provision in the Federal Constitution inhibiting the enactment of any '*ex post facto law* or *law impairing the obligation of contracts.*' The declaration that 'the power which creates can destroy,' is employed as an aphorism, without much thought or consideration. No finite being or body, corporate or politic, possesses such power, as a principle, in a general sense. A legislative body can enact laws and may repeal them; but it cannot destroy vested rights. A Lodge can make Masons and may expel them, but it cannot *unmake* them—they are Masons still. A man can create obligations and make contracts, but the power is not in him to destroy or unmake them. A man may, in a moment of folly, create more evil than a life time of repentance can destroy.

"This Grand Lodge did not sanction the doctrine of *inherent* or *inalienable* rights, as claimed by the 'Phillips' party in 1849, believing that any franchises may be modified or abolished by *prospective legislation*; but we have no sympathy with the doctrine of '*retrospective legislation.*' The declaration in the report of the committee on the 'Condition of Masonry' that 'the Grand Lodge which they represent cannot adopt the "Articles of Union" without dishonor to itself and insult to those Grand Lodges in the United States, and throughout the world, who have so decidedly sustained and cheered us on our course,' is, we very respectfully think, a vain delusion. The anxious desire of every Grand Lodge, and the deep, heart-felt desire of all good Masons, is to see peace and harmony restored to that disorganized and distracted jurisdiction; and the ratification of the 'Articles of Union' by both Grand bodies, in a proper Masonic spirit, was a consummation to which every Grand Lodge anxiously looked, and which they would have hailed with rapturous joy. The 'dishonor' is in the *discord* which reigns there; and the 'insult' to the Grand Lodges in the United States is in the *reproach* which the disorders in New York reflect upon FREEMASONRY throughout the world. The sentiments expressed in the following letter of a distinguished Mason are participated in by Masons everywhere:

"I have just had the great pleasure of receiving the Circular of your Grand Lodge, and the "Articles of Union" agreed upon by the joint committee. The Articles are complete, and are alike honorable to both bodies. The rights, feelings, and honor of all are secured. Neither party *triumphs over the other*, but it is emphatically a triumph of principle and Masonic constitutional law. That both Grand Lodges will adopt the articles without unnecessary delay, I look forward to with confidence, for neither can reject them without disgracing themselves as Masons. In a union based on correct principles and full

justice to all, good men and Masons will rejoice everywhere, but no one more than

“ ‘Your friend and brother,

“ ‘WM. P. MELLEN.’

“ In a report of a committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, appointed ‘to inquire whether there is any regular and constitutional Grand Lodge of Masons in the State of New York,’ we find this postulate : ‘We lay down this proposition, which defies refutation : There cannot lawfully exist within the limits of the same territorial jurisdiction, at one and the same time, two Grand Lodges, who claim to derive their power from the same source and to act under the same name, title and Constitution.’ Now, if the learned committee had prefixed a *superlative*, so as for it to have read ‘two Supreme Grand Lodges,’ their proposition would have been an axiom ; but, as it is put, there are precedents to refute it from the transactions at the famous Apple Tree Tavern, in London, 1717, down to the present day ; in Massachusetts until 1792 ; in South Carolina until 1817 ; in the State of New York, from 1823 to 1827, there were two Grand Lodges, claiming power from the same source and both claiming to be *legitimate*, when, in the latter year, they formed a union ; but, there being a deficiency of *brotherly love* in the cement, in 1849 they again fell asunder. Since that period there have been two Grand Lodges in that State, claiming ‘to derive their powers from the same source and to act under the same name, title, and Constitution,’

“ The fact that the ‘WILLARD’ Grand Lodge has been recognized by nearly all the Grand Lodges of the United States as the legitimate Grand Lodge, does not disprove the fact that there are two Grand Lodges in that State of *equal* standing. The argument of the minority of the special committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is conclusive upon that point, and cannot be refuted. ‘When the Grand Lodge of New York, excluded a constituent portion of itself, it was a revolutionary proceeding, and a dissolution of the Grand Lodge. Its next act was not an act of the old Grand Lodge. That body consisted of certain constituent members, and their presence or assent, express or implied, was required to form the Grand Lodge. When one portion of those members was excluded, the remaining parties could make up a new Lodge body, but it was no longer the old one. Both bodies claim to be the old Grand Lodge ; but it is unquestionable they are bodies built upon fractions of the old one, with no better claim for the one than the other to *legitimacy*.’ This is clearly admitted by the action of the ‘WILLARD’ Grand body, in asking for the appointment of a committee on the part of the other body to act *jointly* with its committee in arranging terms of union ; in the *joint* meetings of the committees, and in their agreement upon ‘Articles of Union,’ in which is provided : 1st. That there shall be but ONE GRAND in the State of New York ;

clearly admitting the existence of two Grand Lodges in that State at that time. In cases presented by the committee as analogous, where Union was effected in other jurisdictions where two Grand Lodges existed. In the receiving and reference of the 'Articles of Union' to the committee 'on the condition of Masonry;' and in the report of that committee. All these acts go to prove indubitably the *equality* of the two bodies, and that they acted upon the *level*. It must of necessity have been so, for if one of the parties had been *illegitimate*, its contact with *legitimacy* would have been contamination, the effect of which would have been to bring down the other to its *level*. The committee 'on the condition of Masonry' were quite too late in making the discovery, that the ratification of the 'Articles of Union' by the 'WILLARD' Grand Lodge, would be 'lowering their position of self-respect.' If there were any danger of 'lowering' in the case, it was already done before their report was made, and the only wise course left them to be taken to preserve their 'dignity, honor, and interest' from being '*tarnished or imperiled*,' was the acceptance of the 'Articles of Union.' In the transactions of 1849, both parties acted in a violent, factionary manner, which was unmasonic, and could not be justified. But sister Grand Lodges, judging from representations made them, believe the 'WILLARD' party had more to palliate their proceedings; and believing that both parties had acted under highly excited feelings, which time and the influence of wise and sober counsels, and a proper Masonic spirit, would soon reconcile, and reluctant to cut off Masonic communication with that jurisdiction, recognized the 'WILLARD' party as the body with which to hold correspondence. Florida was among the first to take this position, confidently relying upon a magnanimous spirit in the recognized party, which would impel them to make to the other party such concessions and advances in fraternal kindness, as would in a very short time restore harmony and peace. But we regret to be compelled to say, that we have witnessed nothing of this Masonic spirit in the recognized party; but, on the contrary, evidences of a bitter partisan spirit, which, presuming upon its success, seeks to crush its opponents. We can say for this Grand Lodge, that it was not in its contemplation by recognizing the 'WILLARD' party, to place all the distinguished Masons adhering to the 'Phillips party,' under the ban of Masonic interdict. Nor will we countenance that intolerant and unmasonic spirit which seeks to crush them, and which is manifested in all these proceedings. But can such a body of Masons be crushed? Is it desirable that they should be crushed? In looking over these proceedings in June last, we see Representatives reported from Lodges numbering as high as 147, and twenty-odd Lodges represented; and Representatives from the Grand Orient of France and Brazil, and the Grand Lodge of Saxony, and numerous correspondents. Such a body of Masons, deriving their authority from the same source, and working in the same way, cannot be Masonically disgraced. They stand upon

equal footing with the other body, and both must be acknowledged as Grand Lodges, or both must be rejected as irregular. We regard the 'WILLARD' party as decidedly in the wrong, for rejecting the 'Articles of Union,' and responsible for all the evil consequences that may follow, which may be a rehearsal of the scenes which grew out of the state of things in New York between 1823 and 1827, when there were, as now, two Grand Lodges in that State struggling for power until their subordinate Lodges numbered, with not a moiety of their present population, over SIX HUNDRED. Experience has convinced us that Pennsylvania acted wisely in refusing, after the scenes of 1849, to recognize either party. If all the Grand Lodges had acted in like manner, and had said to these contentious and disorderly Masons of New York, until you can live together in peace and harmony, and 'behold how good and how joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity,' we can hold no fraternal intercourse with you—we verily believe those difficulties would have been reconciled years ago.

"This portion of this report, on the 'Articles of Union,' is presented by the chairman of the committee, without any expectation or desire that this M. W. Grand Lodge will, at this session, take any action upon it. It is made entirely upon his own responsibility, without consultation or advice from any quarter. All that he wishes, or intends is, that it may go out with this report, in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, so that the Fraternity in this jurisdiction may fully understand this question, and the causes of discord, which are disturbing the harmony of the Fraternity in the United States; that they may come up to our next annual communication prepared to take such action upon this subject as will comport with their Masonic intelligence, and the dignity of this Grand Lodge.

NORTH CAROLINA.

"The Grand Lodge of this State assembled in annual communication in the city of Raleigh, December 1st, 1856, Pleasant A. Holt, M. W. Grand Master; R. W. T. Bain, Grand Secretary. The annual address of the Grand Master was submitted in writing. On the subject of St. John's College the M. W. Grand Master speaks very despondingly. He says: 'It will be found that the Fraternity has not responded to our appeal to their liberality with the zeal which was anticipated. The institution is in progress of erection. It has been embarked by this Grand Lodge upon the sea of experiment as her own legitimate offspring. Its trustees have become embarrassed for the want of necessary means to proceed with the operations,' and to relieve which he suggests the propriety of negotiating a loan based upon the real estate of the college. 'Unless this or some other plan be adopted to relieve our difficulties,' he says, 'I see no other hope in the future of St. John's College but inevitable failure.' Several reports of committees

are presented on the subject, one of which say : ' We need not remind remind you of the past bickerings and heart-burnings in the conception of this noble offspring of your body. We find the child living and we are called on to provide for its support.' And the committee on Education say : ' The state of education among the Craft in North Carolina has not assumed so marked a character as to enable the Fraternity to claim superiority over others in the noble and greatly needed work of educating the rising generation. Four schools, for a Fraternity numbering one hundred and ninety Lodges, who ought to be in advance in every good work, represents a state of affairs that your committee cannot say redounds to the honor and praise of the Craft.' If, from our observation of the progress of education in other jurisdictions, especially in those States where Colleges and Universities have been patronized, we are permitted to form and express an opinion, we would think the noble spirited brethren of the good old North State have done as well as any of their sister jurisdictions. But, we respectfully say, if the same devotion to the cause of education had been directed to the encouragement of *one hundred and ninety* common, neighborhood schools, we doubt not, more good might have been done with fewer mortifying perplexities.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of thirty Grand Lodges (among which we see Florida named), which they do not report upon in detail. In their general review, they comment upon the great anxiety which seems to prevail everywhere to increase the number of members of Lodges, 'without any regard to the quality of the material which is brought from the quarries to be worked into the building of the temple.' This is an evil which we see generally noticed and commented upon in addresses and reports, and, we fear, without any practical good effect, for we also notice that this very evil of the rapid increase of our numbers is given *as evidence of the prosperity* of our Order. Their views are so very sound on this subject, that we will be excused for extracting largely :

" ' One custom generally noticed and too prevalent among the various subordinate Lodges, is the facility with which Masons are made. Though it is gratifying to all good Masons, that our beloved institution has safely weathered the storm of persecution that once threatened to overwhelm it in speedy destruction, and is everywhere commending itself to popular favor, yet we must be permitted to remark that Masonry, though universal in its character and operations, is not intended to embrace all within its folds. It does not and ought not to go out upon the highways, and proclaiming its excellencies and beauties, invite every one into its portals, regardless of qualifications, and despite of objections. To be a good and faithful Mason, well tried and trusty, requires peculiar excellencies, peculiar qualifications. It is not enough to inquire whether a man will do no positive injury to Mason-

ry, but it is important to know whether he will be an active working member, one who not only will do us no injury by his association with us, but reflect credit upon the institution wherever his connection with it may be known. The haste, then, with which many Lodges make Masons, their eagerness to enlarge the number of members, is no just criterion by which to judge of their prosperity, or of the cause. It would far better for a Lodge to have a dozen well tried and active members, men who will illustrate by their diligent attention, in and out of the Lodge, to the various duties they take upon themselves when they become Masons, and who will make themselves familiar with all the usages and customs, than to have a large number, who, though they do nothing that may bring disgrace and reproach upon us, remain as ignorant of the true objects and purposes of the institution, as if they had never entered the sacred portals of the temple. The world is apt, nay, quick to judge of any institution by the daily deportment of those who manage its affairs. If they manifest a deep interest in all that concerns it, if they show that their connection with it has made them better men and more valuable citizens, it can but bear a favorable report to the world. But if it produce no change for good upon their character or actions, if the bad and the good are admitted indiscriminately within its portals, whilst numbers of those who profess to be Masons may be greatly increased, we are not so certain that the observant and well thinking portion of the community will regard the institution in its true light. Let it be remembered that it is not the numbers that flock to our portals that give us character and weight in the community, but the uprightness of their lives and the influence for good that they carry with them in their public and private walks. Lodges, then, ought to be admonished to be especially careful to inquire cautiously and fully into the character of those who seek admittance into their portals.

“Then again, the facilities for making Masons in some Lodges are so great that often, three, and even more, are initiated, passed, and raised in one night, when there can be no urgent necessity for it beyond the mere desire of the applicants. Apart from the fact that this is not in strict accordance with Masonic usage, those who are thus hurried through our mysteries, however intelligent and observing they may be, are not and cannot be properly impressed with the sublime moral truths that are intended to be urged upon them. No excuse ought to betray the Lodge or its Master into such indiscreet or unnecessary haste. If the mysteries of our institution are worth learning, they ought to be learned in our way and according to our usages. No supposed advantage can compensate for the indecent haste and irregularity so prevalent in many Lodges, where the great aim seems to be to add to the number of members, without calculating whether it will add to the dignity or the respectability of the body.

“ ‘ We see complaints made in many of the proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges of the evils growing out of this inconsiderate haste. Men who are often made Masons in one jurisdiction, and armed and equipped with what will commend them to the fraternal regard and brotherly greeting of Masons elsewhere, show that the emergency that ensured them the privileges of Masonry, did not fit them to take upon themselves the reciprocal obligations they have assumed. They prove to be Masons only in name, reflecting no credit upon the Lodges that sent them forth, and entailing only trouble and perplexity upon those Lodges that receive them.

“ ‘ The committee trust that they are not traveling beyond the strict line of their duty when they call upon this Grand Lodge to take such steps as will put an end to this irregular and reprehensible practice within this jurisdiction. The strongest way in which we can urge the jurisdiction to conform to the ancient usages of the Order, is to practice a strict and unvarying conformity to them ourselves. We can never ask others to aid us in putting down irregularities and in preserving the ancient landmarks, if we do not ourselves first set the example. We trust that this Grand Lodge at its present annual communication, will adopt such measures as in its wisdom it may deem adequate to remedy a great and growing evil. We have thus imperfectly discharged our duty in reference to this question, and leave the matter in the hands of the Grand Lodge to dispose of as they may deem proper.’

“ The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution, reported by the committee on the Grand Master’s address :

“ ‘ *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge, with fraternal feelings, should recognize and receive with cordial friendship the Grand Lodge of CANADA, and extend to her the courtesies usual among Grand Lodges.’

OHIO.

“ The proceedings of this Grand Lodge were received since this report was made, but the committee cannot refrain from placing it in order among the other Grand Lodges, and giving it a brief notice. The Grand Lodge held its annual communication at Massillon, 20th October, 1857, Brother Meredith D. Brock, Deputy Grand Master, acting as Grand Master Brother John D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary. The address of the M. W. Grand Master was read by the presiding Grand Master. After an apology for his absence from the Grand annual communication, he goes into a detailed account of his official acts and doings, from which we would hazard the opinion that no Grand Lodge need desire a more faithful, vigilant, and efficient Grand Master. We have time to take but one short extract from his address, which requires no comment from us :

“ ‘ Since the appointment of District Deputies, I have heard but little

complaint of "itinerant lecturers," and hope we shall have less trouble in future from that cause, and when our Masonic journalists shall cease to use the word "regalia" (introduced, I presume, by those itinerant lights), and fall back on the simple and Masonic term "clothing," their teaching will soon be forgotten and their innovations discarded. No good Mason ought to encourage an editor who will persist in stealing even a simple word from Odd Fellowship, to whom "regalia" of right belongs.'

"The R. W. Deputy Grand Master also made a report in writing, of his official acts, and a committee made a report 'on revising the Ritual,' which was received and a rehearsal made the special order for the evening; and the work, as exemplified, was approved by the Grand Lodge, and the District Deputy Grand Masters were authorized to communicate the same. We will venture the remark, if one of the District Deputy Grand Masters of Ohio should find it convenient to visit us at our next annual communication, and let us see how the Craft of our sister jurisdiction of Ohio do their work, he will meet with a fraternal greeting and hospitable entertainment.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, which is published as an appendix, embraces fifty pages, and, from the glance only which we have been able to give it, we would characterize it as an ably written document. Indeed, it is refreshing to look over the proceedings of a Grand Lodge got up with so much ability and executed with so much taste and judgment. But we can now only notice one remark made by the committee in relation to our report of last year. They observe:

" 'There is truth in what our brother says of the labor in overhauling the rubbish to find the valuables; but as he has, beforetimes, labored among the rubbish to bring to light the hidden jewels of the Craft, he might have chosen language, it seems to us, less captious and more Masonic than he employs. We will like him, look among the mass of matter his long report presents, and transfer, for the benefit of the Craft, to our own pages, whatever we find of value in his.'

"We may not be so happy as our esteemed brethren of the Ohio committee in expressing our ideas, but our 'language' was not uttered in a 'captious' or uncivil mood, to say nothing of an *unmasonic spirit*. We hope we may be permitted, on another occasion, to 'look among the mass of matter' in their able report, and present some of the jewels it contains to the admiration of the Craft. Till then we must say to our Ohio brothers, farewell.

OREGON.

"We have received and examined, with much pleasure, the Journal of Proceedings of our young sister on the Pacific. This Grand Lodge held its annual communication at Salem, Monday, 8th June, 1857,

M. W. A. M. Belt, Grand Master; R. W. W. S. Caldwell, Grand Secretary. The address of the Grand Master is devoted to the consideration of local affairs. In conclusion, he says: 'Allow me to say, that so far as on me depends, I will always be found ready and willing to coöperate with you in all things calculated to promote the interests of our time-honored and beloved Order.'

"The committee on Foreign correspondence made a report, reviewing with ability the proceedings of nineteen American Grand Lodges, in which they take occasion to pay a handsome tribute of respect to the memory of the lamented Dr. E. K. Kane, from which we take the following beautiful and appropriate extract:

"Your committee will be pardoned for noticing an afflictive event, which has caused sadness and grief throughout the land, and has especially spread the funeral pall, and waved the cypress, over the ranks of our Order. We allude to the lamented death of our distinguished brother, Dr. Elisha Kent Kane, who, young and strong, and still "cherishing noble longings for the strife," was smitten down by the wayside, the victim of his noble zeal in the pursuit of star-eyed science, and of the warm and generous philanthropy, that marks and illustrates the true Mason.

"If life be not in length of days,
In silvered locks, and furrowed brow,"

but in the victory of will over circumstance, of spirit over matter, of virtue and principle over vice and sloth, then had our young brother lived long and well, and had answered life's great end. He was the impersonation of the Masonic ideal. The beauty of his deeds was a picture of virtue. Let the memory of his soul be to us who survive a fountain of inspiration to heroic deeds and sublime sacrifices for humanity's welfare.'

"The abstract of returns exhibits fifteen chartered Lodges, and one U. D., with an aggregate of four hundred and ninety members.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"We have the proceedings of this ancient Grand Lodge, at its annual communication, held at the new Masonic Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, on St. John the Evangelist's day, 27th December, 1856, Brother John K. Mitchell, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, presiding; Brother William H. Adams, R. W. Grand Secretary. The address of the M. W. Grand Master, Peter Williamson, is a practical business paper, giving an interesting account of the performance of his official duties during the past Masonic year.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is well written, and in a truly fraternal spirit, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-one Grand Lodges. But we notice nothing particularly requiring comment, except their notice of the 'caustic rebuke' administered

by the committee of New York for their proffered mediation, from which we take the following extract :

“ But what are the charges thus preferred against us, and what the specifications introduced in their support ?

“ “ The head and front of our offending ” seems to be this :

“ Some years since, a difficulty of a serious character occurred in the Grand Lodge of New York, which resulted in a violent split in that ancient and honorable institution. Circumstances so disastrous to the Order could not occur without being deeply regretted by Masons everywhere ; but our condition was somewhat peculiar. They occurred in a neighboring city, having daily business and social intercourse with our own. Many members of both jurisdictions were mutually known and attached to each other—some by business, some by kindred, and all by fraternal ties. Thus circumstanced, every consideration that could impel a man, or a Mason, urged upon this Grand Lodge the duty of making an effort to bring about the peaceful and satisfactory solution of the difficulties among our brethren of New York. And, will it be believed by Masons—nay, by civilized men of whatever kindred, tribe or tongue, that for making such effort we have incurred such dire hostility. In connection with the general charge of having presumed to offer our mediation when they had declined that of other Grand Lodges, they specify the particular offense of having neglected to recognize what is generally termed the “ Willard Grand Lodge.” To this we reply, that our object was to promote peace and harmony, but not humiliation. We might have recognized either one or the other, but how would that have disarmed the belligerents or restored peace to the Order ? The moment we declared in favor of either of the contending parties, all hope of mediation was at an end. It is true that some of our sister Grand Lodges have taken different views of duty. They have acted upon their own responsibility, and we upon ours. They are more remote from the scene of conflict, and, perhaps, feel less inconvenience and embarrassment than we, in the more immediate vicinity. They hear in the distance the roar of artillery, but we are covered by the smoke of the battle-field. Whatever may have been the motives that governed their action, we have never hesitated to believe them pure and conscientious, and hope and believe they entertain the same charitable feeling in regard to us. But not so with our brethren of New York. It was their privilege to reject our mediation if they chose to do so, but why not decline it with courtesy and kindness ? The olive-branch we extended they were not bound to accept, but why turn from it in indignation and scorn ? In the divine teachings of the Holy Bible, “ the Great Light of Masonry,” we read, “ blessed are the peacemakers,” but surely none were ever less fortunate in their efforts than we. Arrested in our “ labor of love,” converted from the mediator to the criminal, tried, convicted, and condemned, and only saved from

execution by the benevolent interposition of a worthy brother, upon whose motion the resolution of non-intercourse was laid upon the table.

“Your committee have neither time nor inclination to follow in detail the various charges of the New York committee, but to show our members the estimation in which they are held by the Grand Lodge of New York [Willard], we present a few extracts from their committee's report :

““The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as a body, is insular, exclusive, and peculiar. In different respects its exterior boundaries encircle a system of Masonry that is unknown in practice to any other jurisdiction in the United States. It knows not—or if it knows, it studies not—the wants, wishes, or opinions of its sister Grand Lodges in this country. It has little or no sympathy in common with the rest of the Masonic world. In derision and contempt of the universal opinions and practices of the Grand Lodges of this country, it continues its supervision and control over other branches of Masonry, from which, in deference to their wishes, and to preserve harmony in the Masonic fold, it should have been long since separated. Its course in this particular has not only created party feuds among its own members, but has caused unpleasant discussion and irritation to the body of the Fraternity, and to the governing Masonic bodies of the nation. With what propriety, then, if a mediation were proper or desirable, can the Grand Lodge of New York accept that of Pennsylvania, and reject the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Massachusetts, and Virginia, each and all of whom in nearly all particulars we have named, may be said with great propriety, to have moved in harmony with the music of the Union, while Pennsylvania has not.’

“These are serious charges, and scarcely uttered in such terms of forbearance and comity as should characterize the intercourse between brethren of the same great Masonic family. Our brethren of New York, however distinguished for character and ability—and we freely concede them both—may not yet have learned the important lesson, that reason does not always consist in satire, or argument in denunciation. The Grand Lodge may be “insular,” but not to the calls of charity—she may be “exclusive,” but not in her generous efforts to inculcate and advance the pure principles and ancient landmarks of Masonry—she may be “peculiar,” for she does not choose to blazon her good deeds before the world.

“But we are accused of want of sympathy with Masons of other jurisdictions. Will our respected brethren permit us to ask what motive, if not that of sympathy, induced this Grand Lodge to proffer mediation to New York? We had no selfish purposes to subserve—no ambitious desires to gratify. The Masonic field is wide enough for all, and the objects claiming our benevolence and charity sufficiently numerous. It must be confessed, however, we have little inducement for again obtruding our good offices in that quarter.

“The strangest charge of all, considering whence it comes, is that our course has created “party feuds,” “unpleasant discussions,” “irritation and discord among our members,” and that “*we have not moved in harmony with the music of the Union!*” Were not the subject of of too serious a character, we might almost imagine the committee were disposed to mingle a spice of levity with their arguments, if merely to witness how the countenance of their venerated Grand Master would unbend, and his form and features relax at this display of wit and fancy. But seriously, if the respected brethren of that committee were to attend a meeting of this Grand Lodge, witness the dignified decorum pervading the whole, the mild and impartial government on the part of the presiding officers and cheerful and willing obedience of the subordinate officers and members, they might fail to find any evidence of the discord of which they accuse us, although not “moving in harmony with the music of the Union.” The best commentary, however, on this charge of the committee may be found in the following extract from their own report. The committee say, in describing the circumstances attending the action of the Grand Lodge, on the proposed amendment of the Constitution :

““On this announcement being made, one of the party opposed to it arose and asked the Grand Master if he distinctly understood him that the amendment was adopted, and had become a part of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge? To which the Grand Master replied in substance what he had before stated, that by virtue of the action taken it had become a part of the Constitution—(we don’t pretend to give the words used). But on this being made, the interlocutor before mentioned jumped upon one of the seats and proclaimed, ‘Then I declare this Grand Lodge dissolved, and I call upon all who are opposed to the amendments to unite with me in organizing a Grand Lodge!’ Thereupon a number of Past Masters, who were collected near the east, sprang to their feet, and amidst cries and yells and imprecations that were disgraceful to a Masonic body, pretended to elect one of their number chairman, and went through the form of electing a list of Grand Officers. During all this time the Grand Master was occupying the chair, with the gavel in his hand, frequently calling to order, to which no attention was paid by the discontents. When they got through with this part of the outrage, they seized the box containing the funds of the Grand Lodge, which had been paid in by the representatives, then in the hands of the Grand Secretary, and such other effects as they could get hold of, and made off with them.”

“‘Now your committee have no pleasure in copying from the New York committee’s report, such disgraceful scenes in a sister Grand Lodge—far from it; and certainly no word of approval for the disorganizers, but with what face can the committee detail such occurrences in their own Grand Lodge, and in the next sentence accuse us,

probably one of the most orderly Masonic bodies in the United States—of producing, by our action, irritation and discord, of not “*moving in harmony with the music of the Union!*”

SOUTH CAROLINA.

“We have the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, from December 31, 1855, to December 31, 1856, held in the city of Charleston, at *special and quarterly* communications; and a ‘Grand annual communication and Grand Feast,’ on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, at all of which we notice the presence of M. W. Brother Alfred Pierce, the Grand Master, except at a *quarterly* communication, 2d September, when R. W. Brother A. Campbell, Grand Senior Warden, presided as M. W. Grand Master; and, also, the presence of R. W. A. G. Mackey, Grand Secretary, at all the meetings, except at a *special* communication, 19th September, when Brother A. Meyer acted as Grand Secretary. It does not appear to be the custom of this Grand Lodge for the Grand Master to make an address, or a committee of Foreign Correspondence to make a report. This duty is performed by the Grand Secretary. We observe that the Grand Secretary, Brother A. G. Mackey, presented a string of ‘amendments to the Rules and Regulations’ of the Grand Lodge, which if adopted, will work an important change in the regulations of the Grand Lodge, more conformable to the Grand Lodges in the United States. We observe, also, that the Grand Lodge adopted ‘*A CODE OR BY-LAWS for the government of subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina.*’ The report of the Grand Secretary, which was presented at a quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge, 2d December, 1856, is ‘*a brief resumé*’ of the condition of Masonry among our corresponding jurisdictions since the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge;’ and of course is an interesting document with all Masons, where the name of Albert G. Mackey is known, and would justify us in transferring the whole of it to this report, if it could be done; but that being more than our limits will allow of, our constituents must be satisfied with such a condensed view as we may be able to present. Knowing the weight which is attached to the opinions of this distinguished and enlightened Mason, by the Fraternity of this jurisdiction, we shall give his opinions on questions, agitated in other jurisdictions, without the argument, as far as we can do so to be intelligible.

“He remarks, ‘The published proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the present day, compared with those emanating from the same bodies, thirty, or even twenty years ago, conclusively demonstrate, that Masonry has at length taken its place among the scientific developments of the day, and that, while it retains its social and fraternal character, it had added to it the more elevated one of a philosophical institution. It may, I think, be now indeed said, that the golden age

of Masonry has begun.* If the scene it now presents at early dawn be so enticing, what must we not expect, when the full blaze of its meridian splendor shall, in time not far distant, burst upon us?' He says :

"The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana exhibit a most prosperous condition of the Order in that jurisdiction. As your Grand Secretary had the pleasure of being present during the whole of the session of 1856, in the city of New Orleans, he can personally speak, with pleasure, of the general intelligence of the members, and of the harmony which characterized the discussions of that truly respectable body. The Grand Master, Brother Wm. M. Perkins, ever alive to all that concerns the true interests and honor of Masonry, calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to a fault which I fear is not confined to the jurisdiction of Louisiana.

"I regret," he says, "to notice the practice, too common in our Lodges, for brethren to dimitt whenever anything goes wrong in their estimation, instead of remaining in the Lodge, and attending more punctually to their duties. Sometimes an officer they do not fancy or a candidate deemed by them unworthy gets in ; they are offended, and without reflection, call for their dimitts and quit the Lodge. This is not the way a true Mason should act. *He owes something to the common cause*, and ought to remain in his Lodge, to prevent evil and to do good, as far as in his power." This opinion of the Grand Master of Louisiana is sustained by our venerable charges (alas ! too seldom read, and frequently obeyed still less), which declare that "all Masons shall meekly receive their wages, without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master till the work is finished." I cannot, therefore, be surprised, when I hear Brother Perkins declaring that "it detracts very much from a brother's standing with him when he finds him dimitting for any such causes."

"Of Vermont, he says :

"The address of the Grand Master of Vermont is just such an able, truthful and emphatic document as was to be expected by all who knew him, from one who may well be considered as one of the fathers of Masonry in his own State. The Masonic opinions of Brother Tucker are generally formed with the prudential spirit of foresight as to ultimate results, and founded on that intimate acquaintance with Masonic history and law that demand for them the respectful consideration of the Craft.'

"Noticing a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Texas, discountenancing the use of Masonic emblems, on sign boards and business cards, as well as the wearing of the insignia of Masonry in every day life, he says : 'Of the correctness of the former clause of this resolution, there can be no doubt,' and after some reasoning on the subject, he concludes :

"Masonic signs are "tricks of trade." Masonic breastpins are marks of attachment to the Order. At all events, I am constrained, with all respect for the Grand Lodge of Texas, to doubt the expediency of legislating on the subject of a Mason's every day dress. Let that be left to each one's taste and sense of propriety.'

"The committee of Foreign Correspondence of Texas pay a high compliment to the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, which Brother Mackey notices thus :

" "Everything that emanates from South Carolina in Masonry we revere. We approve their work, and believe that a pilgrimage to Charleston would benefit the ardent student of Masonry more than a view of the Holy Land."

"Such a compliment from so "whole-souled" a Mason as Brother Neill, should at least invite us to deserve it ; and when he pays us his promised visit, which all who know him will anticipate with pleasure, may he find our Masonry worthy of the commendation he has so liberally bestowed.'

"And of Oregon :

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Oregon have laid down a rule for their government, which precludes any lengthened report from that body. They say that "to review, overrule, and reverse the decisions of Grand Masters in cases regularly before them, and to intimate doubts of the wisdom propriety, and regularity of the decisions of Grand Lodges upon questions carefully considered and solemnly adjudged, we cannot persuade ourselves is the course best calculated to promote harmony, facilitate the interchange of kind offices, and cement the bond of union and fraternal intercourse which should everywhere exist among Grand Lodges.

"Any one who has, like myself, the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Brother Stark, the chairman of the committee, will be at once ready to attribute the decision, as to the duties of a committee on Foreign Correspondence, to that peculiar kindness of heart, that gentleness of disposition and urbanity of manners, which uniformly characterize him. I regret that I cannot altogether agree with him in the view that he has taken. The duties and privileges of a committee on Correspondence are at this day the most important confided to any committee of a Grand Lodge, and what they precisely are, and how they should be performed, are matters worthy of a calm and deliberate consideration.'

"Commenting on the proceedings of Pennsylvania, he says :

"During the past year, the Grand Lodge has completed and dedicated its new hall—the most magnificent temple for Masonic purposes in this country, or perhaps in the world. But the Fraternity have commenced another task—the erection of a spiritual temple of charity—in comparison with which, when completed, the marble halls, the

groined ceilings, and the Corinthian columns of the temporal house will sink into utter insignificance. I allude to the Charity Fund which the Grand Lodge established in 1855, "for the relief of the widows, children, mothers, and sisters of Masons." The great object of this fund is "to concentrate all applications for charity in one body, where they can be properly investigated, and where the meritorious will not only be relieved temporarily, but will be supplied with small sums, enabling them to start in some business by which they can support themselves and families in respectability, and be relieved from the humiliation of dependence on the casual aid from Lodges." The fund is to be raised by yearly contributions from the Grand Lodge, and such subordinate Lodges as may see fit to join in the measure; and it is calculated to amount in ten years to fifty thousand dollars, which noble charity will be dispensed by a board of almoners, composed of our members appointed by the Grand Master, one from each subscribing Lodge.'

"Of Iowa, he says: 'The report of the committee of Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Brother J. T. Sanford, and is one of the most able documents of the kind, that the present Masonic year has produced.'

"The Grand Master of Missouri condemns in strong terms, the custom prevailing in some portions of his jurisdiction of Lodges loaning or giving the use of their halls for the meetings of other secret societies. Brother Mackey says:

"This is a custom which, although disapproved by the action of our own Grand Lodge, which by special resolution, has refused to permit any but Masonic societies to meet in its hall, is still practiced by some Lodges in our jurisdiction. It is a custom, however, which most true Masons condemn, for a lodge-room having been consecrated by solemn ceremonies to Masonry alone, should religiously, I think, be preserved from all other uses.'

"We believe the Masons in our jurisdiction are as charitable and as hospitable as Masons are in any country, but we must say that we never knew an instance in this jurisdiction of a Masonic Hall being loaned, or given to, or used by other secret societies. In our Lodge, the HOLY BIBLE is always open upon the altar, and our working tools are always in their proper places. We own a building and premises, jointly with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but there is no communication between our Halls, which are in different stories of the building.

"Noticing a system in Alabama of levying taxes on subordinate Lodges, to an amount more than necessary to defray the current expenses of the Grand Lodge, Brother Mackey says:

"A proceeding like this is suggestive of many reflections in relation to the true principle which should govern Grand bodies in levying taxes on their subordinates. A Grand Lodge, as Grand Lodges are

now organized in this country, and as Grand Lodges, I think, should only be organized, can have no possible use for money beyond the mere payment of its current expenses. This seems now to be the universal opinion among the most distinguished Masons in every jurisdiction of this Union. No one now doubts the truth of the maxim that a surplus fund in a Grand Lodge is a great evil. The money remaining in the treasury becomes a vexatious source of discussion and controversy; the time of the Grand Lodge is occupied in debates on the proper mode of expending the treasure; and Masonry and the true objects of Masonry are lost sight of in the worldly questions of dollars and cents. It must never be forgotten that a Grand Lodge is neither a bank nor a joint stock corporation; it needs no financiers to direct its operations; its members ask for no profitable investments to redound in remunerative dividends. Its results are expected to be not pecuniary, but intellectual and moral—if I may use the quotation with reverence, "its kingdom is not of the world."

"Brother Mackey, adverts to the proceedings of Ohio, and says:

"The Grand Lodge of Ohio, having adopted a resolution making a belief in the authenticity of the Scripture a requisite qualification for initiation, the committee of Correspondence of Alabama condemn this action, and by a long and able argument prove its impolicy and unmasonic character. It is, indeed, much to be deplored that Masons will sometimes forget the fundamental law of their institution, and endeavor to add to or detract from the perfect integrity of the building, as it was left to them by their ancestors. Whenever this is done, the beauty of our temple must suffer. The landmarks of Masonry are so perfect, that they need and will permit no amendment. Thus, in the very instance before us, the fundamental law of Masonry only requires a belief in the Supreme Architect of the Universe, saying that in matters of religious belief Masons are only expected to be of "that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves." Under the shelter of this wise provision, the Christian and the Jew, the Mohammedan and the Brahmin are permitted to unite around our common altar, and Masonry becomes, in practice as well as in theory, universal. The Grand Lodge of Ohio attempted to amend (as they supposed) the law, and at once the universality of the institution is destroyed, and none but the Christian becomes eligible to initiation. Its religion is of that universal kind in which all men agree, and which, handed down, through a long succession of ages, from that ancient priesthood who first taught it, embraces the great tenets of the existence of God and the immortality of the soul—tenets which, by its peculiar symbolical language, it has preserved from its foundation, and still continues in the same beautiful way to teach. Beyond this we must not and cannot go."

"Yes, Brother Mackey, one step further we can and must go. We

must believe in the LAW as well as in the GIVER of the law. We must believe in the truth of the BOOK 'handed down through a long succession of ages from that ancient *priesthood* who first taught it,' embracing 'the great tenets of the existence of God and the IMMORTALITY of the soul,' without whose light the world would have remained in Pagan darkness. If you had added, Brother Mackey, 'but no one who *declares* a disbelief in the divine authority of the HOLY BIBLE as a revelation from God, can be made a Mason,' we think your opinion would have been complete, and would 'maintain the perfect integrity of the building as left to us by our ancestors.' The religion of Mohammed is founded upon the Bible as a revelation from God, and, if the Brahmin never heard of the Bible, he would be unable to *declare* any opinion about it; and, when made a Mason, he would be sure to hear and learn something about it; and there must be a very obvious difference in making a Mason of such an one, than one who, living in a land where the Bible is revered, declares his disbelief in its divine authority, and regards it as a fable.

"Brother Mackey notices the report of the California committee in regard to the weight which should be attached to the reports of committees of Foreign Correspondence, as expressive of the opinions of their Grand Lodge, and says: 'The California committee have taken a most admirable and intelligent view, and, as their opinions coincide in every respect with those I have myself entertained on the same subject, I cannot refrain from presenting them in *extenso* before the Fraternity of this jurisdiction.' But as this subject has been fully discussed and our opinion already given in our last report, we do not think it necessary to copy it here.

"In the proceedings of Indiana, the Grand Master, in his address, remarks, 'In one or two cases during the year he had indications of differences among the members of the Lodges, and consequent disturbances in the harmony of the Lodge had their origin in a difference of opinion in reference to politics, and in one or two instances, elections of officers in the Lodge are supposed to have turned on such questions.' To which Brother Mackey replies:

"If such be the case, it presents, it must be confessed, a deplorable condition of things, and threatens the Masonry tainted with such a pestiferous influence with a speedy dissolution. Political questions are to Masonry what the wind of the Sirocco is to the islands of the Mediterranean; wherever they approach they bring desolation with them; and the Lodge that would venture for a single hour to inhale their poisonous exhalations must surely die. Let us trust that the anxious fears of the Grand Master of Indiana have magnified the evil, and that our brethren of that jurisdiction have been spared the melancholy sight of a collision between the selfish malevolence of politics and the disinterested purity of our own beloved institution; and, I am happy to say, that an inspection of the proceedings of that body pre-

sents nothing but prosperity and harmony, so that the evil complained of appears to have been redressed, or, at least, not to have been extended.'

We are happy to say, that we have never known the harmony of our Lodges disturbed by the introduction of questions of this character ; and, as it regards offices, they are never sought after, always bestowed.

"Brother Mackey says : 'In the proceedings of Indiana, I find the report of a committee, which was adopted, asserting the right of a Master of a Lodge to dimit. I should have taken no notice of this report, since a contrary interpretation of the law is, I believe, very generally admitted among the Craft, were it not that the committee cite the authority of South Carolina, among other States, for the conclusion to which they have arrived. We hold that the obligation of his office compels him to serve until the time of the next election ; and so strictly have we construed this law, that in case of death, or unavoidable permanent removal from the jurisdiction, we do not even by dispensation permit an election to supply the vacancy, the office always reverting to the Senior Warden.'

"Of Maine he says : 'Among the other interesting matters in the report of the Maine committee on Correspondence is a letter from Captain and Brother John T. Philbrick, who, with his crew, were wrecked in the American schooner *State of Maine*, and rescued from the wreck by Captain Cameron, of the British schooner *Mars*. Brother Philbrick was carried to Halifax by his preserver. He speaks in the most grateful terms, in the letter referred to, of the kind and fraternal treatment that he met with from his brethren at Halifax. "Every attention," he says, "that heart could wish was paid to me by the consul and Masons of the city, particularly the members of the Scotch Lodges. I was entirely destitute of clothing, without money, unable to work or help myself in any manner, still I found myself among brothers and friends who were always ready to administer to my wants." Such events, continually recurring in the every-day experience of our Order, are precious testimonials of the truth of the Masonic maxim, that in every land a Mason may find a home, and in every clime a brother.'

"Of Mississippi he remarks : 'The Grand Lodge of Mississippi has declared it to be its opinion, that no visitor can be permitted to take his seat in a Lodge, on the strength of being vouched for by a brother, unless that brother has sat in a Lodge with him.'

"I am of opinion that this rule is somewhat too rigid. Under ordinary circumstances, the safest plan would be to require that the vouching should be based on the fact of having sat in Lodge with the visitor. But there are occasions in which an intelligent and experienced Mason will be as well enabled from his own private examination to decide the Masonic qualification of a candidate for admission, as if he had sat with him in the communication of a Lodge. This

subject of vouching does not, indeed, appear always to be understood. Many Masons believe that the prerogative of vouching is inherent in every brother, and that if A shall say that he vouches for B, and that he has sat in a Lodge with him, the assertion should be received with all respect, and B admitted. But in how many cases may not A, from ignorance or inexperience, be liable to be deceived? How are we to know that A himself was not in a clandestine Lodge which had been imposed upon his ignorance when he sat with B? How are we to be sure that his memory has not been treacherous, and that the Lodge in which he saw B was not a Fellow Crafts' or Entered Apprentices', instead of being a Masters'? Why, only by knowing that the Masonic skill and experience, and the general good sense and judgment of A are such as not to render him liable to the commission of such errors. And if we are confident of his Masonic knowledge and honesty, we are ready, or ought to be, to take his vouching without further inquiry as to its foundation; but, if we are not, then it is safer to depend on an examination by a committee than on the avouchment of one in whose ability we have no confidence. A Masonic avouchment is, in fact, in the nature of a mercantile or legal security. Its whole value depends on the character and attainments of the one who offers it; and it would be better, I imagine, if a positive rule is to be laid down, to say that no visitor shall be admitted into a Lodge except with the avouchment of a well known and skillful Mason, or upon examination by a committee.'

"Of the National Congress at Paris, France, Brother Mackey says:

"I have attentively read these propositions and canvassed their nature in my own mind, and am constrained to say, that I know nothing that has yet occurred in the history of our Order that is so well calculated to advance its usefulness and secure a uniform feature in our institution, than the acts of this Congress. I can scarcely doubt that the propositions, unexceptionable as they are, and calculated to do so much good, will meet the approbation of every Grand Lodge throughout the world.

"More particularly would I invoke your attention to the importance of the proposition to invest all candidates with the words of recognition, and the three rites most extensively diffused—the York, the Scotch, and the French or Modern. It is to be regretted that the exuberant fancy of a few continental ritualists, should ever have permitted the introduction of any innovations upon the original simplicity of the three degrees of which Ancient Masonry is composed; and, although the differences produced by these innovations have not been sufficient to destroy the universality of the institution, still a knowledge of the additional modes adopted in the rites established subsequent to York Masonry, and from some one of which all the Lodges on the continent of Europe, and South America, have been derived, will add much to the

convenience and facility of communication between them and English and American Masons. I have myself, on many occasions, especially when conferring the third degree upon a candidate about to travel into foreign countries, instructed, as a matter of advantage to himself, either in the Lodge or in private conference, in these various modes of recognition.

“Our sister jurisdiction of New York continues to maintain her high position among the Grand Lodges of this Union, and to present in her annual proceedings a mass of valuable and interesting Masonic information. From personal observations made during the past summer, I am happy to repeat my remarks of last year, that notwithstanding the existence of a few dissentient and schismatic Lodges in the city, the general harmony of the Masonic body in New York is uninterrupted. In last February, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania offered to act as umpire between the contending claims of legitimacy of what have been called the Phillips and Willard Grand Lodges, with the understanding that the decision when made, should be sacredly observed by both parties. The former body, which has failed to receive the recognition of any of the Grand Lodges of the Union, and which, therefore, in such an umpirage, had everything to gain and nothing to lose, accepted the offer with avidity. But the true Grand Lodge having already submitted its claims to legitimacy to the consideration of the Grand Lodges of the world, and having received, in return, an almost universal recognition, could not discover any advantage that could possibly arise from reopening the issues that had already been determined in her favor, and from abandoning the safe and high position in which she had been placed by her sister jurisdictions; she therefore, very wisely, as I thought, rejected the proposition.

“Among the valuable and interesting documents which the increasing devotion of the members of the Fraternity to the science and philosophy of Masonry, are annually contributing to the proceedings of our Masonic bodies, I cannot refrain from alluding, in terms of the most profound admiration, to the able report of the special committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, presented at its last communication, to the Grand Lodge of Virginia. It is true that I cannot agree with the committee in all the results at which they have arrived in the course of their decisions; but the ability and research with which they have defended their opinions, entitle them to the highest commendation.

“In relation to unaffiliated Masons their views are, perhaps, to be considered as a *mezzo termine*—a middle ground between those which would become entirely oblivious of the fault of non-affiliation and those which recommend its punishment with harsh severity. I shall not discuss the question opened by the committee, as my views in relation to unaffiliated Masons have been so often repeated as to be familiar to the Fraternity; but, at least, I can cordially assent to the declaration

of the committee, that "every unaffiliated Mason is living in open violation of Masonic law, either voluntarily or involuntarily."

"The committee recommend that special committees on the character of applicants for initiation be abolished, and that the Lodge be made a committee of the whole on every petition presented. If there was any certainty that such a committee would faithfully perform its duties, there could be no objection to that mode of reference; but, as the homely proverb teaches, that "what is every body's business is no body's," I fear that the Lodge would, in most cases, come at the next communication to ballot for the candidate without any reliable information in relation to his preparatory qualifications. As a matter of security only, I am, therefore, inclined to prefer the present mode of deputing the task of investigation to a special committee.

"With the views of the committee on the subject of reinstatement, excepting the denial of the right of the Grand Lodge to restore to membership, I agree, and believe that no difference of opinion exists between our Virginia brethren and this Grand Lodge.

"I feel gratified in perceiving that the Grand Lodge of Virginia has done me the honor of adopting the form of initiation proposed by me, and incorporated it into the Ahiman Rezon of South Carolina.'

"We believe we have given faithful extracts of Brother Mackey's opinions upon all the subjects commented on in his able report, and which we find to occupy more space in our report than we could well spare; but believing they will be valuable to the Fraternity in this jurisdiction, who would like to peruse them, we have been willing to encounter the labor and responsibility.

TEXAS.

"The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas was held at the Masonic Hall of Palestine Lodge, No. 31, in the town of Palestine, Monday, 19th January, 1857, M. W. F. B. Sexton, Grand Master, presiding; R. W. A. S. Ruthvin, Grand Secretary. The annual address of the Grand Master is of very considerable length, covering some thirty-odd pages, a large portion of which is devoted to the case of the making of a Mason of a man under that jurisdiction, who publicly declared his *disbelief in the divine authority of the Bible*. We have noticed within the last two or three years this subject has been introduced into many of the Grand Lodges as a mooted question, and we have remarked that even the subject of '*sectarian allusions*' in the devotional services of the Lodge has been agitated, and *majority* and *minority* reports and resolutions introduced into some of the Grand Lodges. We cannot see any good to the harmony of the Craft that can grow out of the agitation of such questions, which we have always regarded as LANDMARKS well understood, or that ought to be well understood by all enlightened Masons. We all have the assurance given us at the altar that Masonry will not interfere with our religious or political opinions, and the

introduction of these subjects is forbidden within the portals of a Lodge. Who cannot then see that any attempt to introduce other regulation would be productive of evil? No well-instructed Mason would obtrude his *sectarian* opinions into a Lodge any more than he would his *political* opinions, and any attempt to do so should be as promptly rebuked as any other impropriety. But, when a brother is called on to perform the devotional services of the Lodge, surely no right thinking brother would object to his using the forms of the Church to which he belongs, according to the dictates of his own conscience. Any other regulation would be an attempt to control a Mason's religious opinions, which we have declared to him Masonry will not do.

"But the question brought before the Grand Lodge of Texas in the address of Grand Master Sexton, and which he has argued with so much learning and ability, becomes a subject of vital importance on account of the *extreme and opposite* opinions declared from high Masonic sources. At the last annual communication, the Grand Master was requested to visit Clinton Lodge and inquire into the circumstances connected with the initiation, passing, and raising of the candidate who had declared such opinions, and, after a full investigation, which it is not necessary to transfer to this report, he says:

"It was unanimously admitted that Mr. ——— was a man of good character; that his integrity was considered irreproachable; that his conduct was exemplary, more so than that of many who made professions entirely opposite to his in regard to the divine authenticity of the Bible, and that, except upon the grounds already stated, no objections were ever made to his receiving the degrees of Masonry.

"Mr. ——— made, substantially, the following avowals in my presence: He "does not believe the Bible to be the revealed will of God;" he does "not believe that God has ever made any revelation of His will to man." He says "the Bible contains a good code of morals, but thinks it a *purely human production*, and entitled to no more credit than if written by any man. He denies having said the Bible was "a bundle of fiction" in those terms, or that "Jesus Christ was an impostor." He denies, also, the use of other irreverent and revolting expressions (not proper to be written), which are imputed to him. He denies having spoken of the Bible with levity; but admits that he may have said that "some passages in it are false."

"After giving the subject all practicable attention, I could not find the conduct of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, obnoxious to censure, either as having conferred the third degree on said ——— in opposition to the known wishes of some of the members thereof, or as having violated any of the fundamental laws of Masonry, by admitting to its portals a candidate absolutely primarily disqualified from receiving any of its mysteries. The members of the Lodge present when he received the degree cannot be said to have disregarded the wishes of those absent,

because they supposed all ground of their opposition removed, and believed that, had they been present, they would have voted affirmative ballots. And whatever may be the elementary, inviolable and proper rule in reference to the belief of a candidate for Masonic mysteries concerning the "Great Light" which lies always open on our altars, the members of the Lodge cannot be said to have violated it in this instance ; for they conformed to what they supposed that rule to be, according to the then represented official opinion of the District Deputy Grand Master. I therefore took no proceedings against the Lodge, but endeavored to explain, as clearly and definitely as I could, what course I thought should be pursued in similar cases, should any in future occur. In reference to Mr. ———, my instructions were, that as he had received our mysteries, so long as he performed all the duties enjoined upon him by the Order, continued in the practice of its virtues, and violated none of its express enactments, he must be received as a true and faithful brother among us.

"The foregoing occurrence may render it necessary for the Grand Lodge to express an opinion, as to whether an individual is a proper subject for the mysteries of Freemasonry who altogether denies the divine authority of the Holy Writings, and declares their precepts entitled to no more obedience, by reason of the power and wisdom of their author, than the morals of Seneca or the maxims of Doctor Franklin.'

"The committee appointed on Grand Officers' reports, on this subject say :

"Your committee do not agree with our Grand Master in his conclusions. He thinks that the individual concerning whom the question originated was not a fit subject for Masonry. In this we fully concur with him ; but he thinks the Lodge ought not to be censured for initiating, passing, and raising him. We respectfully and fraternally differ with the Grand Master in that opinion. We think the conduct of Clinton Lodge not only illegal, but a violent outrage on the plainest tenets and precepts of Freemasonry. The connection with such an individual with the institution is, in the opinion of your committee, the veriest burlesque on its sacred teachings. He can neither appreciate nor understand them. They are to him as "sounding brass or tinkling symbols ;" and the Lodge which so palpably violates our fundamental principles, by such a profanation of our sacred mysteries, is scarcely excusable under any circumstances.'

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence also notice this subject, and give extracts from the report of the Alabama committee, in which they copy the Ohio resolution and the argument of the select committee of that Grand body ; all of which we have concluded to copy at the risk of swelling this report beyond reasonable limits, for the purpose of presenting the views of all parties on this important subject. The Texas committee say :

“ ‘There is much valuable Masonic learning contained in Brother Sayre’s report, which we would be glad to notice, but must content ourselves with the discussion of one subject of which he treats, the importance which we think not only justifies, but absolutely demands consideration at our hands. It seems that at the session of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, held in 1854, a select committee, to whom was referred the complaint of a brother relative to the views of certain members of one of the subordinate Lodges “respecting the truths recorded in the Holy Scriptures,” reviewed the previous action of that Grand Lodge upon the subject, expressed the opinion that “Masonry requires of those who seek admission to her mysteries a belief in the truth of the Holy Scriptures,” and concluded by offering the following resolution :

“ ‘*Resolved*, That Masonry, as we have received it from our fathers, teaches the Divine Authenticity of the Holy Scriptures ; and that the views of candidates on this subject should be ascertained by the committee of Inquiry, or otherwise, as well as their other qualifications and fitness to be received into the Order.

“ ‘Which was adopted by the Grand Lodge. Brother Sayre thinks that the action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio was “all wrong,” and in his discussion of the subject uses the following extraordinary and startling language :

“ ‘“The position which Christian Masons assign to the Bible, is a very natural one, but not a necessary one. It is their great light, their moral trestle-board, and the rule and guide of their faith and conduct ; but it is thus to them as Christians, not as Masons.

“ ‘“The committee say, that if the Bible be not true, then Masonry itself is a cheat. Well, we are not sure about that. It may depend somewhat upon what portion of the Bible the committee allude to. King Solomon undoubtedly existed, whether the Bible be true or not. These are facts independent of the Bible, and we are therefore disposed to think that the conclusion at which the committee arrive is a *non sequitur*.

“ ‘“The committee say of the Bible : ‘Its presence is regarded as vital to the existence of the Lodge, inasmuch as no Lodge can be organized or opened without it.’ All that does not prove that the Bible is true. It only proves that Masons *believe* it to be true, and that its moral teachings are better than those of any other book. Masons might make a volume of *Æsop’s Fables*, or a copy of David Crockett’s Almanac, occupy the same conspicuous place, or make either a *sine qua non* to every Lodge, but that would not prove them to be other than fables or creatures of a human imagination.”

“ ‘Your committee are as much opposed as any man or set of men can be to be to mingling theological questions with Masonry, but they must be permitted to say that they received with mortification and astonishment the declaration that in Christendom *Æsop’s Fables* or Crockett’s Almanac might be substituted for the Bible, without Mason-

ry receiving any shock therefrom, and without altering the characteristics of the institution. Your committee agree with their Ohio brethren that "if the Bible be not true, then Masonry is itself a cheat." In this country we call it our "Great Light." We refer to it as our "moral and Masonic trestle-board." We say that it not only represents but supplies the place of the Shckinah—the visible presence of God in the Temple at Jerusalem. We declare that its presence is vital to the existence of the Lodge, and that no Lodge can be organized or opened without it. We tell the initiate that Masonry is founded upon the Bible, and that as a Mason it is the rule and guide of his faith and conduct; and, in the language of the Ohio committee,

"The Bible is held up to the candidate on his initiation as the first great light of Masonry. He is told that it is the inestimable gift of God to man. His onward pathway, in the entire extent, is lighted up by its blessed precepts. The *Faith*, the *Hope*, the *Charity*, in which he is admonished to abound, are the Faith, the Hope, the Charity of the Bible. The star which shines from the centre of one of the three *ornaments* of the Lodge, is commemorative of the star which appeared to guide the wise men of the East to the place of the Saviour's nativity. The two eminent patrons of the Order, to whom Christian Masons dedicate their Lodges, are the two Sts. John of the Bible, the precepts of which they present as a wall of defense round about every brother, within which he may walk securely and never materially err. No station in the Lodge is too high for the reach of the duties which the Bible enjoins. The Worshipful Master in the East must humbly bow to its authority. On him, as he is about to enter upon his arduous labors, is laid the obligation, weighty above all others, of a *diligent observance of the Holy Scriptures*, which, he is instructed, are to be a rule and a guide to his faith. And, when sorrowing brethren gather around the final resting-place of the departed, they mourn not at those who are without hope; the *sprig of acacia* tells of an ever verdant and bright land beyond the grave. The Lion of the tribe of Judah has vanquished the foe; and hope and consolation are imparted by the thoughts of that life and immortality which the Bible, and *the Bible only*, has brought to light."

"Yet, in the face of all this, we are gravely told that *Æsop's Fables* or *Crockett's Almanac* may be made to occupy the same conspicuous place in the Lodge as now occupied by the Bible, and that either may be made as much of a *sine qua non* to its existence. If this be so, Masonry is a miserable swindle, its forms are a solemn mockery, and its ceremonies the most shocking sacrilege. It is no answer to these arguments to say that Masonry exists among the Jews, Turks, Chinese, Mohammedans, and other people who do not acknowledge the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures. We do not admit that Masonry, such as we profess, does exist amongst them. What is called Masonry in those countries may bear as little analogy

to what we recognize as Masonry, as did the forms, ceremonies, teachings, and objects of certain societies that flourished in the middle ages. We are not speaking of Turkish Masonry or Chinese Masonry, but of Christian Masonry, and of that we will say that it should either discard the Bible from its Lodges, or require a recognition of its authenticity.

“Our Ohio brethren are not alone in the orthodox position which they have assumed. The Grand Lodge of Iowa, in 1854, took and now occupies the same ground. Illinois did likewise in 1845 (as we are informed); North Carolina in 1846—though not requiring a belief in the Scriptures as a test of admission—yet passed a resolution, “That a belief in the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is essential to the faithful fulfillment of the duties required by the Order of Masonry in all Christian countries, and that a denial of the same is in conflict with the principles of our institution, calling for reprobation.” And our own Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, in answer to the following question submitted to it by one of its subordinates, to wit: “Should a Deist, who pronounces the Holy Scriptures to be a ‘bundle of fiction,’ yet in other respects of irreproachable moral character, be entered, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason?” emphatically answers, HE CANNOT. In order to place our position more tangibly before the world, your committee have submitted a resolution on this subject :

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Texas declares that a distinct avowal of a belief in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is an indispensable prerequisite to Masonic admission, in all Christian countries; and that it shall not be lawful for any subordinate Lodge, within her jurisdiction, to initiate, pass, or raise a person who does not entertain that belief.”

“The Corresponding Committee of California, in reviewing the proceedings of Alabama, make further extracts on this subject, which we regard as pertinent in presenting a full view of this question. They say :

“We are pleased to see that Brother Sayre entertains opinions similar to those expressed by ourselves in our last report, relative to that new test introduced by Ohio, which requires that a candidate should express a belief in “the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures,” before he can be made a Mason. In our remarks last year upon this subject, which had been somewhat violently treated by the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of Iowa, we said :

““We have yet to learn that Masonry is especially a Christian institution, or that it is a *religious* one at all ; and, while we doubt not that our own faith in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Writings, both Old and New, is quite as implicit as that of our *Christian* brother Iowa, we do not forget that there is a very large number of our brethren as good and worthy Masons as ourselves, whose belief does not and cannot extend so far. The precepts of Masonry are *moral*, not

religious, and declaration of belief in God is required, not only for the reason given to the candidate upon his entry, but because there is little guarantee that a man will obey the moral law who does not give credence to the existence of a Divine Arbiter of our future state of being. 'Masonry,' we are told, 'unites men of every country, sect, and opinion,' and as our own traditions date its origin at a period long anterior to the advent of the Messiah, the attempt to introduce this new test is not only an evident invasion of the primal law, but it is a palpable contradiction of the very history which we teach and profess to believe. There is no law of Masonry which should prevent the Fraternity of Christians, Jews, and Mohammedans; and that Brotherly Love 'by which we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family,' and 'which conciliates true friendship among those who might (but for their Masonic relationship) have ever remained at a perpetual distance,' is the very foundation, life, and spirit of the institution."

"Brother Sayre quotes the proceedings of Ohio in this respect at length, and then thus exhibits the error of the proposition of that Grand Lodge by its own proceedings :

"At the opening of the communication of the Grand Lodge at which this report was adopted, the Grand Master congratulated the brethren that Masonry was spreading in Turkey and reviving in China. Now, neither the Turks nor the Chinese believe in the New Testament. The Jews are everywhere admitted into our Lodges, but they do not believe in the New Testament any more than the others. In fact, we are constantly told that pure and unadulterated Masonry, or traces of it, may be found all over the world—among the civilized and the savage—among those even who have never heard that there was such a thing as the Bible. Either these reports must be the merest fables, or a belief in the authenticity of the Scriptures is not necessary in the Mason. The Jews, the followers of Confucius, and the Mohammedans all reject either the New Testament or the Old, or both, and yet we see no good reason why they should not be made Masons. In fact, Blue Lodge Masonry has nothing whatever to do with the Bible. It is not founded upon the Bible; for, if it was, it would not be Masonry, but religion. Masonry is merely a charitable institution. * * * That some Masons may teach the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is true, because some Masons are Christians; but *Masonry* does nothing of the sort, leaving every man to his own opinions upon that subject, as it does upon his politics, his religion, and his profession. Masonry only inquires if the candidate for initiation possesses the proper physical qualities; if he be free-born, of lawful age, under the tongue of good report, and properly vouched for; then, if he believes in the existence of a God, he is a proper candidate for our sublime mysteries."

"We think that we have now presented all the arguments that have

been put forth, of any bearing, *pro* and *con*, upon this question, and we feel constrained to say, and we say it with great deference, that much learning and ability have been expended upon very mistaken views of this whole subject ; and if we did not know the high Masonic character of some who have advanced them, we would be compelled to regard them as the loose and inconsiderate opinions of men as ignorant of the great principles and designs of Masonry as of the Bible.

" We have regarded Atheism as a mere fiction. We do not believe, especially in this enlightened age, that any sane man can be an Atheist. All mankind have some undefined notions of some over-ruling power, but, without the lights of revelation, their tendency is to a belief in *many gods* rather than in *no God*. Atheism, therefore, may more properly be called *infidelity*, for it is unbelief. There are but two lights by which man can be guided in his belief of a God and a future state of existence : the light of NATURE and the light of REVELATION. The lights of nature afford no clear and defined perceptions of the being of a God as a Divine Arbiter, or [a] future state of existence. All is speculation, and tends to a belief in Paganism and Demonism. By the light of REVELATION, we are taught to believe in the existence of ONE God, who has the Divine attributes of LOVE and MERCY ; in the immortality of the soul and the resurrection of the body. We recognize REVELATION in that sublime event when God said, ' Let there be light and there was light.' What light ? Not merely the transmission of those solar rays which produce vision—that is but the symbol—but the glorious light of revelation, which enlightens the mind and enables us to form a proper conception of God as He is—the I AM, the GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE, whom Masons acknowledge as their great Grand Master and worship and adore. This light we have in the BIBLE, which is His law, given for our guidance, and is to Masons the GREAT LIGHT, which must be always present, open upon their altars, and without its presence they have no light to work by. It was by this light the foundations of our Masonic Temple were laid—' that Temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens '—and he who denies its truth can never be made a ' true and trusty stone,' fit to be worked into that building.

" We entirely agree with Brother Mackey when he says : ' The fundamental law of Masonry requires only a belief in the Supreme Architect of the Universe.' In our experience we have never known any other test of faith required of a candidate than the declaration of a belief and trust in God, because such an assent is an acknowledgement of a belief in the truth of the revelation by which a knowledge of His existence is obtained, and that implied assent is confirmed by submitting to the ceremonies of initiation. But, if we are to understand by this declaration of Brother Mackey that he means to say that a man who declares his disbelief in the authenticity of the BIBLE, as recorded by *Moses and the Prophets*, can be made a Mason, then we say we entirely disagree with him ; and, on the other hand, we say with equal assur-

ance, if the opinions declared by the Grand Lodges of Ohio and Texas, that 'a distinct avowal of belief in the divine authenticity of the *Holy Scriptures* is an indispensable prerequisite to Masonic admission in all Christian countries,' is to be understood as including the GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST or the *New Testament*, then we say we entirely disagree with them, and regard such a 'prerequisite' as a palpable innovation upon the established LANDMARKS of the Order. Masonry was anterior to the Christian era, and derives none of its authority from the New Testament. Symbolic Lodges in Christian countries are dedicated to the HOLY SAINTS JOHN, because they were eminent patrons of Masonry—not because they had any instrumentality, as Christians, in its institution; for we are assured that Masonry was instituted long before their day. The committee of New York ask 'what they do with the Mohammedan, the Brahmin, the Indian, and a host of others, who either discard or know nothing about the Bible, yet believe in the existence and overruling power of a Supreme Being?' We answer: 'The Mohammedan' does believe the Bible, and trace their descent from Abraham, of which Mohammed boasted; and it is declared in the Koran that Mecca stands on the spot where Hagar was buried. They call JESUS CHRIST the Great Prophet from God, but Mohammed is *the Apostle of God*. Neither 'the Brahmin, the Indian,' nor any of the worshipers of Brama—of which there are over forty leading denominations, besides the adherents of Boodh—believe in the 'overruling power of a Supreme Being.' They are all Idolaters and Polytheists in some form, having no idea of a God of Justice and Mercy, but appease the anger of their deities with brutal rites and bloody human sacrifices. All the nations of Eastern Asia, Hindoostan, Thibet, Bootan, Burmah, Siam, and Ceylon profess the Braminical religion under its various denominations. In China, the religion of Fo prevails, and throughout the vast regions of Tartary Shamanism is diffused. We may ask, 'What do they with all these?' To them the universality of Masonry has no meaning. There can be no doubt, that among all these nations, there are individuals who have heard of and acknowledge the Bible, and it is equally credible that among such there are many Masous; but that is no evidence that therefore there must be Masons in those countries who do not believe the Bible, or never heard of it. It would require but a very limited acquaintance with ancient history, profane or sacred, to inform any one that the Bible and its traditions were carried among all nations and peoples from the days of Abraham. The learned Michaelis says: 'In order to understand properly the writings of the Old Testament, it is absolutely necessary to have an acquaintance with the natural history as well as the manners of the East.' We are therefore borne out in the assertion that no Mason was ever made without the presence of the Bible in its traditionary or written form. Masonry is the forerunner and pioneer of Christianity, carrying into the darkest regions of Paganism the light of revelation, and Christian-

ity follows to establish the glorious truths of the Gospel till there shall be none to ask, 'Know ye the Lord,' when Christianity shall be universal.

"But, the strangest and most unaccountable declaration, to come from an enlightened Mason is, that 'Blue Lodge Masonry has nothing whatever to do with the Bible. It is not founded upon the Bible; for, if it was, it would not be Masonry, but religion.' Considering the singularity and boldness of this declaration, we think it would have been becoming in the learned brother to have informed us then, upon what Masonry was founded. It surely could not have been founded upon Heathen Mythology, or any of the speculations and writings of heathen philosophers and philanthropists, or they would not have required a declaration of a belief and trust in *one* God as a 'prerequisite to admission.' Brother Sayre says, Masonry could not be founded on the Bible, because 'it would not be Masonry, but religion.' Do we understand, that because we are instructed that Masonry will not interfere with our religious or political opinions, that Masonry has nothing to do in regard to religion and government? Are not Masons required to be peaceable citizens and subject to the civil powers, and obliged by their tenure to obey the moral law, and to practice 'that religion in which all men agree,' which is the performance of our duty to God, our neighbors and ourselves? This is the religion which the Bible teaches and Masonry inculcates. All our holy and sublime precepts and symbols are taken from the Bible, and without the Bible there can be no Masonry. It is the only book that gives a clear and distinct idea of God and of His attributes, of man and of his responsibilities, of a state of future existence and the nature of that state of existence, and of the resurrection of the body. All other books present but vague, contradictory, and obscure speculations. Where do we find in any other book the confident assurance of immortality, given by Job more than fifteen hundred years before the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, speaking by inspiration :

" 'For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth, and though after my *skin* worms destroy this body, yet in my *flesh* shall I see God.' Need we ask Masons if they recognize anything resembling this faith shadowed forth in our symbols?

"We say again, the only declaration of faith necessary on the part of the candidate, before initiation, is the profession of belief and trust in God. But, we also say, that a man who *declares* his disbelief in the Divine Authenticity of the Holy Bible, cannot be made a Mason.

"The M. W. Grand Master notices in feeling and eloquent language, the death of three of its distinguished members. M. W. Past Grand Master James Webb, M. W. Past Grand Master Branch T. Archer, and R. W. Grand Senior Warden Henderson Yoakum. Brother Webb was

a member of this Grand Lodge before his emigration to Texas, and is well remembered by many of our old members ; and Brother Branch T. Archer and the chairman of this committee were intimate friends in their native State, Virginia ; and he can bear testimony to his worth as a brave and honorable man, and deserved well to be styled in his advanced years, for his stern virtues, 'the old Roman.' The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge deeply deplore the death of Past Grand Masters Webb and Archer, bright and shining lights in the Masonic firmament, the Jachin and Boaz of the early Masonic Temple in the Republic of Texas. Though dead, they live in the hearts of their brethren, emblems of the beauty and strength of our time-honored institution.

" The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Brother William Stedman, its chairman, who makes his first effort in this wise :

" 'When it is understood that the chairman of the committee received the communications upon which he has to report at a very late day—that since they were received his time has been so much occupied with professional engagements that he has had but little over one week to examine the immense mass of matter embraced in these communications—that during that limited time he has been subjected to almost ceaseless interruptions ; and *instar ominum*, that, although he has no infancy to plead, yet he is almost a complete tyro in Masonic jurisprudence, and woefully deficient in a knowledge of the transactions of sister Grand bodies, he feels well assured that the mantle of Masonic indulgence will be thrown upon his defective work, and that its imperfections will be ascribed to the unskillfulness of the artisan, rather than to faults in his materials.'

" Whereupon we have a full, able and spirited review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and a Circular from the Grand Lodge of Canada, covering some fifty-three pages ; and, we must say, that we have read few reports with more pleasure, as well for the soundness of its views as for its clear, free, and flowing style.

" Noticing the proceedings of Florida, the committee say :

" 'We judge that there is much harmony, and but little of the "wild hunt after office" prevalent among our Florida brethren, as it appears that all the officers were unanimously elected.

" 'A resolution was adopted instructing the subordinate Lodges not to grant dimits, except to a brother who purposes connecting himself with another Lodge, or one who is about to remove beyond the jurisdiction of the Lodge of which he is a member. In this we think our

brethren are wrong. We think that a Mason has no *moral right* to dimit, except for some good reason, such as are specified in the Florida resolution, but that his *physical* right to do so is inherent, and cannot be restrained by any power, provided the applicant is not in arrears for dues, and is subject to no Masonic censure.'

"This is the correct view. The opinion of the chairman of this committee on this subject, has often been expressed in this Grand Lodge. He is opposed to compulsory membership. If a Mason's moral obligations will not impress upon him the duty of affiliation, he had better be out of the Lodge.

"The Texas committee say, 'The Mississippi committee object to the legislation of Florida upon particular vices, and say, that as the whole moral code is the law of Masonry, special legislation is not only unnecessary, but pernicious, as calculated to produce the impression that the vices not named are not subject to Masonic discipline.' In these views the chairman of this committee fully concurs with the Mississippi committee. Such legislation is like an attempt to strengthen a golden chain by adding pewter links, which serve only to encumber the chain and mar its beauty, without adding to its strength.

"The committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Texas has witnessed the formation of an independent Grand Lodge in Canada, with pleasure, as a movement calculated to conduce to the best interests of Freemasonry, and that we extend to that Grand Body the right hand of fellowship, and ask an interchange of Masonic intelligence.

VERMONT.

"The Grand Lodge of Vermont held its annual communication in the city of Burlington, Wednesday, January 14th, 1857. The address of the Grand Master, M. W. Philip C. Tucker, is such a document as might have been expected from such a distinguished and accomplished Mason. It is entirely devoted, except in regard to local matters, to a defense of the Masons of Canada from the hasty and unjust charge of 'rebellion' made against them by the M. W. Grand Master, and the committee of the Grand Lodge of New York. That it is a successful and eloquent vindication, we need not say, for that is conceded, and many of the Grand Lodges have caused it to be republished entire in their report, and some have adopted it for their own argument. We would gladly follow the example, and transfer this able document into our report if our limits would permit; and as any attempt to make extracts from it would weaken its force and mar its beauty as a whole, we are compelled to let it pass with this feeble notice. The M. W. Grand Master, at the close of his address, in most feeling and eloquent strains, adverts to the death of Brother ANTHONY J. HASWELL, 'the elder brother of the venerated and deceased Past Grand Master, NATHAN B. HASWELL,' who died in the 77th year of his age, having been a Mason

51 years. Brother Deavenport made the report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Lodges, besides three others, received and commented upon at the close of their report. The committee notice fully the proceedings of these Grand Lodges and their comments are characterized by ability and judgment. In introducing their report, the committee remark :

“ ‘The past has been a year of political excitement throughout the nation, and yet in *no one* jurisdiction has the spirit of the demagogue or heated politician invaded the sanctuary of a Masonic Lodge—here peace and quiet has reigned,—and your committee cannot but express their heart-felt gratitude to Him who has the hearts of all men in His hands, for this unspeakable blessing ;’

“And conclude with these sound fraternal reflections :

“ ‘Your committee have thus taken a general survey of the proceedings of the Craft, and find nothing but prosperity ; how long we shall be permitted to enjoy this blessing, the Grand Architect of the universe only knows. We may, however, safely calculate on the continuance of our prosperity, so long as the members of the Institution shall observe and obey the moral precepts of the Order. When we lose sight of brotherly love, relief and truth, and begin to indulge in hard words, and unkind feelings, and forget that we are brethren, then may we begin to doubt the permanency of our beloved institution among ourselves—but Freemasonry will live and flourish elsewhere. For we believe the ancient doctrine, “that it is not in the power of man or any body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.”

“ ‘Society may become so corrupt in one locality that no moral institution can live or prosper in it, and all moral and religious institutions become extinct, as did the seven Churches in Asia. But they will only change their field of operations. The instructive tongue, the listening ear, and the faithful breast will not cease, while any good thing is vouchsafed to our sinful race.’

WISCONSIN.

“The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin held its annual communication in the city of Milwaukee, the 10th June, 1856, M. W. Henry M. Billings, Grand Master ; R. W. Wm. R. Smith, Grand Secretary. The Grand Master's address was well conceived and in a true fraternal spirit. He announces to the Grand Lodge the death of Brother Dwight F. Lawton, Past Deputy Grand Master, who died after a long confinement, in very destitute circumstances. He speaks of his services to the Craft in Wisconsin, ‘particularly during our infantile years,’ in terms of grateful commendation, and says : ‘Our deceased brother has left an orphan, a daughter, entirely destitute. I trust you will not only provide for the orphan daughter, but will assume at least a portion of the expenses which have been so liberally bestowed by our brethren at the

Sheboygan Falls for his last sickness and burial ;' and it presents a beautiful exemplification of the great objects and designs of Masonry, to see how well our brethren of Wisconsin understand and discharge their obligations. The Grand Lodge adopted appropriate resolutions, expressive of their regret for the death of their beloved brother, and, after making suitable provision for the expenses of his long illness and obsequies, appropriated one hundred dollars to the support of the orphan daughter. We recognize in this a stronger illustration of the divine institution of Masonry than orators can ever portray.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the receipt only of the proceedings of twelve Grand Lodges, which they review briefly, and close their report with the following judicious reflections :

"Taking these proceedings as a whole, and they exhibit one feature which stands out prominently in every jurisdiction, and that is, that the Order is becoming more and more popular and is rapidly increasing in numbers, it may well be doubted whether the greatest evil to our institution does not lie in its *popularity* and rapid increase. Already the more prudent and watchful have seemed to see in the future dangers and discords resulting from these causes, and the warning voice comes up to us from the sages of the institution in the East, the South, and the West, to prepare for a reaction, the consequences of which may be terrible. The remedy, however, is in the hands of the Fraternity, and we have faith that it will be promptly and efficiently used. Let none but good men and true be admitted. Use no material but that which is known to be good. Let every Mason keep himself within what he knows to be the boundary line of his duty, and the institution will pass scatheless through the future, even as it has withstood all the fierce assaults of the past.'

"Since writing the foregoing report, we have received the proceedings of Wisconsin for June, 1857, at which M. W. Henry S. Baird was Grand Master presiding, who announces in his address the death of R. W. J. W. Bicknell, late District Deputy Grand Master, at an advanced age, and the Grand Lodge ordered seventy-five dollars to be paid to his widow and daughter, as a sum justly due him for services, and the further sum of one hundred dollars, as a token of the high respect entertained by the Grand Lodge for the high Masonic character and services of the deceased. It is gratifying beyond expression to witness such practical instances of a true Masonic spirit in our brethren of Wisconsin, which gives the assurance that they will never let the widows and orphans of their faithful craftsmen suffer. The committee on Foreign Correspondence made no report.

UNIVERSAL MASONIC CONGRESS.

"We have seen in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, and republished in the proceeding of some of the other Grand Lodges,

an account of the transactions of the 'Universal Masonic Congress, assembled at the Orient of Paris in June, 1855, by decree of his Royal Highness, Prince LUCIEN MURAT, Grand Master of the Masonic Order in France.' It appears that the decree sent out by the 'Illustrious Prince LUCIEN MURAT' embodied an invitation 'to all the foreign Masonic bodies with whom the Grand Orient of France are in correspondence.' The only Grand Lodges of the United States which were represented in the Universal Congress, were the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, by Brother Parker Cumming ; the Grand Lodge of Virginia, by Brother Dinwiddie B. Phillips, and the Grand Lodge of New York, by M. W. Brother Willard, who, however, did not reach Paris in time to attend the Congress ; as also was the case with the 'very illustrious delegation from the Empire of Hayti.' The Congress had a session of seven days. We will give an extract from the proceedings of the last day, which will show the object and design of the Congress. But as this Grand Lodge has received no official communication on the subject, your committee do not think it necessary for them to propose any action in the matter ; but simply to say, that from all they have been able to learn, they are not favorably impressed with its utility or importance.

"The Very Illustrious Grand Master invited the assembly to be seated, and said :

" 'My brothers, we design to close the sittings of the Congress to-day. I have to thank you for the aid you have afforded, and for the intelligence you have manifested. I hope that this Congress may have great results ; but let us not deceive ourselves. The Congress will have no value but that arising from the wisdom and maturity of its judgments, and, above all, the concurrence of Foreign Grand Orients. This result must be one of time. I trust it is not doubtful.

" 'We are now to vote definitely on the several propositions which in your wisdom you have thought proper to be submitted to the acceptance of the different Masonic authorities.

" 'The following are to be thus submitted :

" '1st. This Congress will only submit such measures, few in number, as bear the character of evident utility, are clearly defined, and in all cases manifest the greatest respect for the accepted and internal customs of each country.

" '2d. It is proposed to all Grand Lodges on the globe, that no diploma shall be given to a brother who has not attained the degree of Master Mason.

" '3d. The adoption of a standard form of diploma is proposed to all Masonic authorities. The diploma to be in Latin, with a translation in the national language ; and to have also a testamentary formula, setting forth the desire of the recipient that after his death it may be returned to the Lodge from whence it emanated.

“4th. A permanent Commission of five members is hereby constituted. The commission will have its seat at Paris, in the Temple of the Grand Orient. It is charged with the duty of forwarding to the various Masonic authorities the propositions and publications of the Congress; to keep up its correspondence; to receive all letters, communications or propositions emanating from Grand Orients or Grand Lodges, or from individual Masons, desirous of offering the fruit of their meditations to the Congress; in a word, all that may be deemed useful in forwarding its labors. And, finally, they are to fix the time and place for the next meeting of the Congress.

“The commission is composed of the following illustrious brethren :

“CHEVALIER DE ROSENTHAL,	for the Netherlands.
“COUNT DONOUGHMORE,	“ England.
“JOHN DOVE,	“ the United States.
“HEULLANT,	“ France.
“RAZY,	“ “

“In case of the inability of any of the above named brethren to serve, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, or Grand Orient, to which he may belong, will designate his substitute.

“5th. Masonic authorities are in future to abandon the practice of constituting Lodges in countries where Masonic powers already exist.

“Authorities having Lodges in the territories of other powers, should consent to these Lodges passing under the actual authority of the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over the territory where they are located.

“The Lodges are to be left to their own discretion, and the authorities of the countries where they are located should treat them with fraternal consideration.

“6th. Before proceeding to the initiation of a non-resident, inquiry shall be made of the authorities of the country to which the candidate owes allegiance, except in well authenticated cases of emergency.

“7th. Masters of Lodges, in conferring the degree of Master Mason should invest the candidate with the words, signs, and grips of the Scottish and modern rites.

“8th. This meeting, considering the apron the symbol of labor, that it has always been an important symbol of Masonry, that it is in general use, purposes to decide—That in all Masonic assemblies the apron is indispensable.

“9th. Convinced of the great utility of a regular and uninterrupted correspondence between the various Masonic powers, the Congress invites all Masonic authorities regularly to exchange copies of their printed proceedings.

"10th. The Congress insists upon the necessity of certain central points in each country, for the reception of correspondence, whence it could be diffused throughout the jurisdiction.'

"The various propositions having been put to vote in the order named, they were unanimously adopted.

"Since our report was prepared we have received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of

CANADA,

"'From its foundation on the 10th of October, 1855, to the second annual communication in the city of Montreal, 8th July, 1857'—M. W. Wm. Mercer Wilson, Grand Master; R. W. John Osborne, Grand Secretary. The committee on Credentials reported twenty-six Lodges duly represented, and also the officers and representatives of ten Lodges, U. D., 'whom they recommend to be admitted and take part in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and, on motion, the report was unanimously adopted, and warrants ordered to be issued for the first nine on the list.' In consequence of some irregularity of Rising Sun Lodge, U. D., at Farmersville, the granting of a warrant was postponed until the next annual communication. At the evening session of the Grand Lodge, eight o'clock, P. M. the committee on Credentials made a further report of eight chartered Lodges duly represented, making thirty-four chartered Lodges, and nine U. D. to whom charters had issued; in all forty-three Lodges represented.

"The address of the M. W. Grand Master was read, giving an account of his stewardship, from which we take the following extract as a specimen of its style and spirit :

"'The time appointed by the constitution for the election of officers to serve during the ensuing year having now arrived, it will afford me much pleasure again to resign my gavel into your hands. In doing so, I reflect with unmingled pleasure and satisfaction upon the many gratifying incidents which have taken place during the period in which I have been intrusted with the administration of your affairs. I congratulate you, brethren, upon the high standing attained by your Lodges as well as on the prosperous condition of the Craft generally. These pleasurable feelings, however, I must admit, are somewhat tinged with regret, when I consider that I am still unable to announce from this place that a more perfect union of the Craft in this Province has taken place. This has ever been the most anxious wish of my heart, and the leading aim and object of all my efforts. I trust, however, that this pleasing duty may soon devolve upon my successor, and that he will, ere long, be in a position to convey to us the gratifying intelligence that every Mason in this Province acknowledges allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Canada. Union is essential to Masonry, it is the very *key-stone* of our arch, and should ever be eagerly sought for, and carefully preserved when found, by every true craftsman.

Such a union as I contemplate and ardently long for, may be accomplished without sacrifice of principle on either side, if both parties are only really and truly actuated by a sincere love and regard for Masonry, and by a spirit of forbearance and brotherly love.

“‘Actuated by these feelings, on the 22nd of June last, I endeavored to express them in an unofficial letter written by me to Brother Richardson, the Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West (a copy of which will be laid upon the table), and I have great pleasure in announcing to you that at a meeting held by that body at Toronto on the 30th of the same month, after rescinding certain resolutions affecting the intercourse between them and other Canadian Lodges, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, and an official copy forwarded to me :

“‘Copy of resolutions adopted at a half yearly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, holden at Toronto, on Tuesday, the 30th day of June, 1857 :

“‘*Resolved*, That the interests of Masonry require that perfect unity of the Craft should be restored and maintained throughout the Province.

“‘That this Provincial Grand Lodge being actuated by the spirit of the foregoing resolution, and accepting an intimation of an anxious desire on the part of the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada for a union with those composing the Provincial Grand Lodge with a view to the restoration of perfect unity among Freemasons in Canada :

“‘*Resolved*, That the committee appointed on the 23d October, 1856, be reappointed, with power to take such measures as they may consider necessary and expedient to affect such unity, and to meet any committee appointed for a like purpose by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and with them to negotiate preliminary terms on which such reunion may be accomplished and consolidated, reporting at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge.

“‘I now commend this important matter to your most serious consideration, nothing doubting but that your action thereon will have a tendency to increase the Masonic feeling, evinced by our brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge in these resolutions, and ensure a speedy and happy union of the whole Canadian Craft.’

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence made their report by their chairman, Brother. H. B. Bull, acknowledging the receipt of the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Lodges. The committee say :

“‘Were your committee to recapitulate the different reports made by the various Grand Lodges in regard to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada, hundreds of pages would be required to give a tithe of them, but your committee cannot help giving at length the very able and lengthy report made by the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and which was unanimously received by that body.’

“They also embody in their report, the report of the committee of

the District of Columbia, and the address of the M. W. Grand Master of Vermont; all of which were received and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge; and the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby heartily tendered to the various Grand bodies who have so fully discussed the questions relative to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada, many of whom have evinced a research and knowledge of Masonry, alike creditable to themselves as well as useful to the Craft in general.’

“M. W. Wm. Mercer Wilson was reelected Grand Master ; R. W. Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary.

“Your committee have also received the ‘Proceedings of the PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CANADA WEST, and of the ANCIENT GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, September, 1857.’

“At an especial meeting of the *Provincial* Grand Lodge of CANADA WEST, holden at TORONTO, 9th September, 1857, present R. W. Sir ALLAN N. McNAB, Bart., Past Grand Master on the throne, V. W. Francis Richardson, Grand Secretary, and a full attendance of Grand Officers and Representatives.

“Minutes of the meetings of the committee appointed by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, and the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the purpose of endeavoring to effect an union between the two Grand Lodges, were presented. We have a history of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, which led to negotiations for a union of the two Grand Lodges. At a half yearly meeting, holden at Toronto, 23rd October, 1856, a committee was appointed to draft a petition to the M. W. the Grand Lodge of England, and the following resolution was adopted :

“‘*Resolved*, That the Lodges and individual brethren under this jurisdiction are hereby strictly forbidden to hold any Masonic communication with the self-styled Grand Lodge of Canada, or any other Lodge, or any individual having any connection therewith.’

“At a half yearly meeting holden at Toronto, 30th June, 1857, the R. W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master in his address, said :

“‘I regret to inform you that, as yet, the Grand Lodge of England has not granted the prayer of the memorial adopted by you, nor does it seem probable, from the tenor of the correspondence which the Grand Secretary will now lay before you, that you will discover any reason for hoping that the privileges sought by this Provincial Grand Lodge will be conceded to it.’

“We also find in the proceedings the following resolutions :

“‘The report of the action which the M. W. the Earl of Zetland took, and the remarks which he was pleased to make on the matter of the petition of the Grand Lodge of Canada West, having been read, it was

“‘*Unanimously Resolved*, That this Provincial Grand Lodge has been

deeply pained that the Grand Master of England should have received in such a manner the constitutional conduct which this Provincial Grand Lodge has pursued throughout their difficulties and grievances, and their pain is rendered more intense that he should in any such manner have blamed for unconstitutional conduct the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who has, by the direction of the Provincial Grand Master, conducted the entire business of the Province.

“ *Resolved*, That this Provincial Grand Lodge desires to express in the strongest terms their disapproval of the unjust and uncourteous treatment which they have experienced at the hand of the M. W. Grand Master of England, and to express their conviction that most of the difficulties which have occurred in Canada have arisen from the loss or mislaying of documents, transmitted by this Provincial Grand Lodge, in the Grand Secretary's office, and which, if they had been properly preserved and carefully read, would have removed the lamentable ignorance of Canadian affairs which has been exhibited by those high in office, who ought to have been better acquainted with our position.

“ *Resolved*, That the resolution adopted at the regular communication of this Grand Lodge, held on the 23rd of October last, forbidding communication of our members with those of the Grand Lodge of Canada, be rescinded.

“ *Resolved*, That with unfeigned grief, this Provincial Grand Lodge, in fidelity to the Order within this Province, is constrained to declare that separate organization is necessary for the efficiency and stability of Freemasonry in Canada.

“ *Resolved*, That on the confirmation of the foregoing resolution (at the next ensuing meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge) this Grand Lodge shall declare itself an independent Grand Lodge, all warrants from the Grand Lodge of England being *returned thereto*.

“ *Resolved*, That the interests of Masonry require that proper unity of the Craft should be restored and maintained throughout the Province :

“ That this Provincial Grand Lodge, being actuated by the spirit of the foregoing resolution, and accepting an invitation of an anxious desire on the part of the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for a union with those composing this Provincial Grand Lodge, with a view to the restoration of perfect unity amongst Freemasons in Canada.

“ *Resolved*, That the committee appointed on the 23d October, 1856, be reappointed, with power to take such measures as they may consider necessary and expedient to effect such unity, and to meet any committee appointed for a like purpose by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and with them to negotiate preliminary terms on which such reunion may be accomplished and consolidated, reporting at the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge.’

“ It will be observed by the attentive reader of these proceedings,

that upon the reception by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West 'of the unjust and uncourteous treatment which' their humble petition for redress of grievances had 'experienced at the hands of the M. W. Grand Master of England,' they 'rescinded' the resolution of 'the 23d of October last, forbidding Masonic communication with the *self-styled Grand Lodge of Canada*,' and entirely changing their phraseology, they accept the invitation of 'the members of the GRAND LODGE OF CANADA for an union,' and appoint a committee 'to meet any committee appointed for like purpose by the GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, and with them to negotiate preliminary terms on which such reunion may be accomplished and consolidated.' It will be further observed, that pending these *negotiations* of union, the *Provincial Grand Lodge of CANADA WEST had not surrendered the warrants of its subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge of England*, and was at that time a legitimate Provincial Grand Lodge, and by the proceedings upon the 'PROPOSED ARTICLES OF UNION' recognized to all intents and purposes the legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and which it did not lie with it afterwards to gainsay. But, when the negotiations for union failed, the committee of the *Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West*, again resume the old phraseology, '*the self-styled Grand Lodge of Canada*,' and upon the adoption of the 'minutes of the committee,' which was a rejection of the 'proposed Articles of Union,' 'the R. W. the Provincial Grand Master was pleased to address the Grand Lodge as follows :

" 'The Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West having now declared its independence, I, as the representative of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, now direct and require that every Master or delegate holding any warrant of a Lodge from the Grand Lodge of England, do now return the same to me, in accordance with the suggestion of the Grand Master of England, contained in his address to the Grand Lodge on the 4th of March last.'

" Whereupon the warrants of thirty-eight Lodges were handed to the R. W. *Provincial Grand Master* by the Masters or delegates of their respective Lodges, and the *PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CANADA* was declared defunct, and a Grand Lodge of Canada was then formed, constituted and proclaimed under the title of the '*ANCIENT GRAND LODGE OF CANADA*,' and Brother Sir ALLEN NAPIER MACNAB OF DUNDURN, Baronet, was unanimously, by *resolution*, declared elected M. W. Grand Master. It will be seen that no convention was organized, but that everything was done by simple resolution. The form of a dispensation was presented and adopted, and a committee appointed to have a sufficient number prepared for signature and distribution to-morrow evening ; and after the adoption of 'the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England,' and the appointment of 'a special committee to report such modifications as may seem to be absolutely necessary,' and the appointment of Grand Officers by the M. W. Grand Master, the brethren adjourned to assemble at nine o'clock, A. M., the 10th September.

"THURSDAY, September 10th.—The brethren reassembled at ten o'clock, A. M., R. W. Brother Sir Allen N. Macnab presiding,' when the following resolution was adopted: '*Resolved, That R. W. Brother Thomas D. Harrington, Provincial Grand Master for Quebec and Three Rivers, be accorded the rank of Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge,*' and thereupon the M. W. Thomas D. Harrington proceeded to install the Grand Master-elect, which having been done with the accustomed ceremonies, the M. W. Brother Sir Allen Napier Macnab of Dundurn, Baronet, was proclaimed and saluted as Grand Master of the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada in Ancient Form.' It might very naturally be asked here, why it is a landmark that a Master cannot be installed into office by one who never held rank equal to the office into which he is to be installed, if the Lodge can 'accord the rank' requisite to one of inferior rank? If R. W. Provincial Grand Master Harrington, who has never been elevated to the throne of a M. W. Grand Master, can, by *resolution, be accorded* the rank of a M. W. Past Grand Master, why may not any other Mason *be accorded such a rank?* or, why might not the Grand Lodge, with equal propriety, take a shorter cut, and by *resolution* declare the *Grand Master-elect* duly installed according to 'Ancient Form,' without any of the ceremonies? The R. W. Provincial Grand Master, in his call upon the Masons and Delegates of Lodges to surrender their warrants, said 'in accordance with the suggestion of the Grand Master of England contained in his address to the Grand Lodge on the 4th of March last.' The suggestion of the Grand Master was in this way:

"I am bound to say, however, that I was not acquainted with the whole state of affairs relating to Canada West, when I addressed the Grand Lodge on a former occasion, and that there has been some confusion with reference to the so-called independent Grand Lodge of the same place. With the former I need hardly say we can have nothing to do, they have thrown off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, and that without returning the warrants which they hold under it; to them I applied the term "rebellious," and I think the Grand Lodge will agree with me that I did not unjustly apply that term.'

"By which we would understand him to say, that they did not return their warrants *after they had organized an independent Grand Lodge*. The noble Baronet thinks he meant that they ought to have returned their warrants *before their independent organization*, and acted under that suggestion to escape the charge of 'rebellion.' Well, it is possible his Grace did mean to be so understood; and, if so, he was clearly right in saying that they would have 'thrown off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England' and would have escaped the charge of charge of rebellion; but he hardly intended to be understood to mean that their organization *would then have been legal*, and we think he will so inform the 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada.' When the Lodges holding warrants from the Grand Lodge of England surrendered them

to their Provincial Grand Master, they clearly *threw off all allegiance to the mother Grand Lodge*, and could not be guilty of rebellion against her authority. But they were a body of disorganized Masons, and could do no legal Masonic act, and it is absurd to suppose that they could, after the surrender of their warrants, grant dispensations or warrants to themselves. If they could, then any other irregular assemblage of Masons could *legally* do the same thing. But this position is so clear that argument is unnecessary to illustrate it. The whole of the acts of this body, as set forth in their proceedings, were irregular and clandestine, and it is surprising that such a dignified body of Masons should have resorted to such flimsy devices to elude the plainest principles of Masonic law. We feel some curiosity to hear what action our learned brethren of New York and Massachusetts will take in regard to the movements of this branch of the Canadian Masons. Here is a dilemma. The Lodges engaged in the organization of the 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada' acted either under the warrants from the Grand Lodge of England or without them. If under the authority of warrants, they are, by their own acknowledgement, rebellious. If without them, they acted without organization, and are clandestine. Which horn will they fall upon, or will they tumble between both? *Nous verrons.*

"We have also just received the 'proceedings of the Masonic Convention' organizing the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Nebraska, held in Omaha city September 23d, 1857, and also the first session of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, M. W. R. C. Jordan, Grand Master, R. W. George Armstrong, Grand Secretary, at which communication a Constitution and code of By-Laws and Rules of Order were adopted. We extend to our sister Grand Lodge of Nebraska a hearty recognition and fraternal correspondence, and which we also extend to our young sister Grand Lodge of Minnesota, but from whom we have yet received no communication of proceedings.

"In conclusion, your committee beg to suggest the propriety of having the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence printed hereafter before the Grand annual communication, so that the members of the Grand Lodge can be furnished with copies, and that a sufficient number of copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, with the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence as an appendix, be ordered to be printed as will furnish each affiliating member in this jurisdiction with a copy.

ADDENDA.

"Since we sent our report to the press, we have received the proceedings of the following Grand Lodges :

"ALABAMA, held in the city of Montgomery, 7th December, 1857 ; GEORGIA, held in the city of Macon, 27th October, 1857 ; KANSAS, held in the city of Leavenworth, 19th October, 1857 ; MICHIGAN, held in the

city of Detroit, 12th January, 1858 ; TENNESSEE, held in the city of Nashville, 5th October, 1857 ; and VIRGINIA, held in the city of Richmond, 14th December, 1857.

"The committee, of course, at this late period, can only give a glance at these proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges. The Grand Master of Alabama, M. W. J. McCaleb Wiley, in his address communicates to the Grand Lodge the death of R. W. Amand P. Pfister, for many years Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge, and deeply lamented by the Fraternity. The committee on Foreign Correspondence, in a very brief report, review the proceedings of twenty-eight Grand Lodges. The address of the Grand Master of Georgia, M. W. Wm. S. Rockwell, is principally confined to local affairs. The committee of Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Lodges. The Grand Master of our young sister of Kansas, M. W. R. R. Rees, delivered a short, but interesting address, and the chairman of the committee of Foreign Correspondence, Brother Leander Ker, presented a very brief report, in which the Grand Lodge of Canada is 'cordially recognized,' and the purchase of 'Mount Vernon, the home and grave of Washington,' by the Fraternity, is approved, and proposed 'to be made a Grand National Masonic College.' The Grand Master of Michigan, M. W. Levi Cook, in a very fraternal address, notices at some length the organization of 'two independent Grand Lodges in Canada, claiming nearly an equal number of subordinate Lodges, and both claiming jurisdiction over the same territory,' and counsels their union in 'one independent Grand Lodge in Canada, and one only, which I never doubted their power or ability to do ;' and says, 'But while they may have abundance of precedents for the organizing of one, there is none for the organizing of two, exercising and claiming jurisdiction over one and the same territory,' and recommends to the Grand Lodge of Michigan, that the whole subject be postponed until its next annual communication. There is a very good report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, in which they say, 'they have mailed printed copies of the proceedings of the last session of the Grand Lodge, to all Grand Lodges is correspondence with us, and have received in return, copies of the proceedings of all except a few,' among which they notice the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, for 1857. There is a very short, but truly fraternal address from the Grand Master of Tennessee, M. W. Thomas McCulloch, and in an appendix there is a long report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence of sixty-nine pages, apparently written with much care and ability, which we regret we cannot even read through at this time, but which we hope to be able to review, for the benefit of the Craft in this jurisdiction, in our next report ; as also the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in both of which reports, as well as in the reports of the other four Grand Lodges, there is much valuable matter which we regret exceedingly our inability to bring into this report, but which we anticipate

the pleasure of presenting fully to the Grand Lodge of Florida in our next report.

" All of which is respectfully submitted,

" THOMAS BROWN, *Chairman.*"

There appearing no further business, after prayer by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, according to ancient form and usage.

THOMAS Y. HENRY, *Grand Master.*

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary.*

ORATION

PRONOUNCED BEFORE THE M. W. THE GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA, AT TALLAHASSEE, JANUARY
14, 1868, UPON THE OCCASION OF THE

Installation of its Grand Officers.

BY ROB MORRIS,

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER OF KENTUCKY.*

The prophet Elisha, upon a certain occasion, being at Dothan, subjected himself to the wrath of the King of Syria by informing his enemies of his intended movements, thus thwarting his plans and occasioning him sore disappointment. The enraged King therefore sent to Dothan an army, "horses and chariots and a great host, and they came by night and compassed the city about. And when the servant was risen early and gone forth, behold an host encompassed the city, both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, 'Alas, my master, how shall we do?'"

The hunted outcast calmly arose and surveyed the scene. It was not the first occasion by many in which "man's extremity" had proved to him "God's opportunity," and his soul had no fear. The glitter of armor, the tramping of horses, the thunder of command, however terrible to others, however calculated to arouse ordinary men to fear or admiration, affected in no way the placid current of his soul. He answered the despairing cry of his servant, "Fear not; for they that be *with us* are more than they that be *with them!*" The result entirely justified his sublime confidence in Supernal powers. At the prayer of the prophet, the servant beheld "the mountain full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha," by whose aid they were promptly rescued from peril and the purposes of their pursuers confounded and disgraced.

Called upon to-day to speak words of encouragement and good cheer to my brethren in Florida, I adopt the language of the prophet and say, however arduous your task as Freemasons the coming year—however numerous or relentless your adversaries—however hidden your auxiliaries, "more are they that be *with you* than they that be *with them.*" To prove this declaration, and afford both to you and your opponents a general view of the present position of the Masonic Institution in the United States, I shall leave the beaten path of Masonic

* Bro. MORRIS was elected Grand Master of Kentucky at the next meeting of his Grand Lodge.—COMPILER.

orations and expositions and enter a field, drier, perhaps, and less flowery, but not less useful—that of *facts and statistics*. My pursuits, as a Missionary of the Craft for several years, have given me some peculiar advantages in the way of collecting data of this sort, and I am enabled to vouch for their accuracy.

“Masonry is a system teaching, symbolically, piety, morality, science, charity, and self-discipline.” These are the lessons, and the only lessons proper to our halls of instruction. Many of the most popular themes of the day are prohibited to the Lodge. They are as the “axe, hammer and tool of iron” which King Solomon’s workmen might use in quarry and forest, but, approaching the sacred Hill, upon whose top rose the Temple of Peace, were required to be laid aside, that the workmen might unite in Masonic ceremonials without anything offensive or defensive to disturb the peace and harmony that prevailed. Of these prohibited subjects, I may specify all political themes, which, as the ancient laws of Masonry will declare, “never yet conduced to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will;” all private piques or quarrels; all arguments about religion, or nations, or State policy, and in general all topics not necessarily connected with the essential themes upon which the Institution was first established.

These five great lessons are the texts from which are deduced the thousands of Masonic addresses, lectures and essays which, in various languages, treat of Freemasonry. Upon the reality of these lessons as Masonic doctrines and landmarks, the permanency of Masonic friendships, nay, the very life of the Masonic Institution, is based. No covenant of wicked men can be permanent; neither can good men permanently unite themselves in any other covenant save that whose constituents are of the five already named. The secret of Masonic endurance, its antiquity, universality and unchangeability, is found in these five elements: its piety, morality, science, charity, and self-discipline, in all ages taught as the fundamental lessons of the Institution.

Brethren-elect—officers chosen by the free suffrages of this Grand Lodge to advance its banner and fight its battles the coming year!—your work is succinctly conveyed in this formula, your duties are found in the synopsis of Masonic labor—*piety, morality, science, charity, and self-discipline*. Nothing less than this will fulfill your installation pledges or satisfy the expectations of your constituents; nothing less will hold this division of the Ancient Craft in its place in the line of battle, and secure for it a fair share of honors and rewards. Receive encouragement from the assurances given you that more be they who are *with you* than they who are *against you*.

It is no light undertaking this which I have set before me. To scan the broad field of Freemasonry, which is presented in our great American confederacy, to depict the various phases of this remarkable Institution, seen in more than four thousand Lodges; here in the heyday of youth and novelty; there in the sobriety of old age and conservatism—

here glowing with success, there depressed by adversity—here inspired with all that can animate an association to honor and usefulness—there sluggish with neglect and ignorance, and the more stubborn and intractable, the more ignorant. This is the charge I have taken upon myself, this the subject from which I have invited you to draw encouragement in your labors of the coming year.

There are but few of our Fraternity, even of that portion best informed, who enjoy the opportunity of taking personally, an extended view of the Institution in its practical details. An occasional hasty visit to the neighboring Lodges ; a brief annual attendance upon the Grand Lodge, or at the best, a visit to a few Lodges in the larger cities ; this comprises the personal experience of far the greater part even, of the most enlightened members of our Order, even of those “whose merits claim, justly, that highest badge to wear ;” while to the masses, their acquaintance with Masonry, as a working Institution, is limited, in general, to the operations of the Lodge in which they were respectfully initiated. Now, a society like this, hoary with antiquity, rightfully boasting of a world-wide universality, invites, challenges above all others, the broadest view of its operations. Were it indeed but local in its extent, and circumscribed in its influence, it were enough for any one of us to know how it works, and how it is worked at home. But the subject will not endure such a compress, nor will such a local view satisfy the reflecting mind, bent upon investigating the oldest, the broadest, the most conservative association upon earth. The enlightened overseers, the craftsmen, appointed by King Solomon, for their fidelity and skill, to responsible duties, contented themselves, not with contemplating the little corner of the work, however important, to which they were respectively assigned, but ranged at leisure hours, through quarry, through forest, down by the clay grounds of Jordan, along the steep ranges of Lebanon, climbing the hill of Joppa, braving the waves on floats, and they spared no toil or danger to understand the great designs of their Royal Master, that they might the better be enabled to do a workman's share in his service.

Freemasonry in the United States presents at one view an aggregate of more than *four thousand* Lodges. This conception embraces many details: 4,000 copies of the Book of the Holiest, opened and cherished at each monthly convocation; 4,000 symbols expressive of Deity, gleaming from the Masonic East ; 4,000 founts of charity, never exhausted, though continually drawn upon ; 4,000 workshops, wherein rude, normal masses are transformed to shapely blocks and columns set for honorable place in the Master's plan—surely never were there statistical tables like these which yield such sweet contemplation. It is not strange, that even the humblest poet of the Craft was aroused by this consideration thus to express himself in rhyme :

Oh, what a goodly heritage,
 The Lord to us hath given !
 How blest the brotherhood that pledge
 Their Mason-vows to heaven !
 I sing the mystic chain that binds
 These Western realms in one ;
 Such loving hearts, such generous minds,
 No other land hath known.

Four thousand lights in Masons' halls,
 Are gleaming on our eyes ;
 Four thousand emblems on our walls,
 Tell whence that gleaming is ;
 And when the portals ope to pass
 The humble seeker in,
The voice of prayer pervades the place,
 And proves our light DIVINE !

On every hill, our dead they lie,
 And green sprigs deck the knoll :
 Their fall was moisture to the eye,
 But triumph to the soul.
 Our orphans smile in every home,
 Our widows' hearts are glad,
 And light dispels the darkest gloom,
 And comfort finds the sad.

Thus link in link, from shore to shore,
 The mystic chain is wound :
 Oh, blended thus, forever more,
 May Masons' hearts be found !
 And while the Heavens on pillars sure
 Of strength and wisdom stand,
 May Brotherhood like ours endure,
 Where strength and wisdom blend !

The actual division of this great aggregate of Lodges is this :
 Alabama 64, California 101, Connecticut 70, Delaware 10, District of
 Columbia 10, Florida 25, Georgia 200, Illinois 200, Indiana 205, Iowa
 85, Kansas 8, Kentucky 310, Louisiana 87, Maine 78, Maryland 29,
 Massachusetts 96, Michigan 60, Minnesota 12, Mississippi 189, Mis-
 souri 152, Nebraska 5, New Hampshire 25, New Jersey 41, New York
 351, North Carolina 116, Ohio 256, Oregon 10, Pennsylvania 240,
 Rhode Island 12, South Carolina 61, Tennessee 210, Texas 90, Vermont
 37, Virginia 159, Wisconsin 50.

Widely extended as is this field, scattered as these Lodges are—
 some being located even in South America, and one in the Sandwich
 Islands—yet, in all essential purposes of their institution, *they are as*
one. The mode of selecting, the mode of preparing, and the mode of
 working their materials is one mode ; the ceremonies and the lectures

* This table was true up to January, 1857. The increase in Lodges in 36 Grand
 Jurisdictions, since that period, cannot be less than 400.

are essentially the same throughout, the rewards for merit and the discipline for demerit, the choice of officers, the pledges of installation, the distribution of charity and the burial of the dead, are conducted upon the same system, and the five great lessons of piety, morality, science, charity and self-discipline are the themes for contemplation in each. In fact, speaking practically, we may view the whole as a single body, cemented into one common mass and analyze it accordingly. Not more surely are the soldiers of a grand army, marching into an enemy's country, actuated by a common impulse, than are the workmen of this great confraternity, styled the Builders of the Speculative Temple of Freemasonry, united as a single man in the work.

The average of membership in these Lodges, according to my tables, is about *thirty-four*, which secures us a numerical strength of 140,000—a number rather under than over-estimated, and which leaves out the very considerable portion of Masons who have received but one or two degrees, and consequently have no part assigned them in the government of the Lodges. The character of these men, so far as it may be deduced from their business avocations, is seen in the following list taken from a publication made since by the Grand Lodge of Illinois: In a catalogue of 2,000 Masons, there was 1 who was Governor of the State, 1 Lieutenant-Governor, 1 State Auditor, 1 Clerk of the Supreme Court, 2 Circuit Judges, 640 (or nearly one-third of the catalogue) who were farmers, 319 were merchants, 161 physicians, 82 attorneys, 63 clerks, 42 ministers of the Gospel, 28 teachers, 16 magistrates, 13 sheriffs, 18 constables, 10 editors, 10 printers, 11 engineers, 3 bankers and one officer in the United States Army. Of the various mechanical callings, there were 102 carpenters, 59 blacksmiths, 35 tailors, 31 saddlers, 31 shoemakers, 36 coopers, 30 millers, 31 cabinet-makers, 28 stone-masons, and 28 wheelwrights. Every reputable calling is represented, and well represented, in this list, and it would be unreasonable to ask better evidence of the standing of any institution than such a display as this.

I am forbidden, by the rigid requirements of Masonic Law, to explain in this public assembly how these men—these 140,000 Masons—know each other when they meet. That there is an undoubted means of recognition, I can surely avouch. That in all places and under all circumstances, whether by day-light or in the dark, in sickness or in health, without confusion or liability to error, without danger of imposition or the possibility of being overlooked, Masons may hail and be hailed, recognize and be recognized, I can surely avouch. The formulas for this are definite and precise, and they conform to the ancient tests by which our fathers built up their temple and illustrated to those around them “how good and how pleasant it is for BRETHREN to dwell together in unity.” In proof of this assertion, I cite the experience of an aged Mason present, venerable and venerated for every virtue which

adorns the human character, whose personal remembrances of Masonry run back to the year 1806, the period of his initiation,* and who will testify that the work of the Blue Lodge degrees, as now taught in Florida, as exemplified during the present sessions of the Grand Lodge by various esteemed members thereof, is in all essential respects that which he acquired 52 years ago, in the Lodges of the same county wherein George Washington was initiated 54 years earlier than himself! And I will endorse his testimony, extending its application to all the 4,000 Lodges of this vast association. Long may he live—long may his cotemporaries (Thomas Hayward, John B Taylor, Governor Call, General Butler, and others) live—long may these venerable columns stand unbroken, to commemorate, like the mystic pillars at the porch of King Solomon's Temple, the goodness and mercy of that God who conducted the pilgrimages of the Craft in the days when they were young.

But although forbidden by the unyielding laws of Freemasonry from publicly imparting its peculiar tokens of recognition, I may, without blame, publish before you the fact, that the stranger, coming to us as a Mason, and claiming to be of our family and household, must carry about him the essential marks of an honest man. All the tests and formulas of Masonry amount to nothing, omitting the *moral tests* of Masonry, because all others are based upon the moral tests. There are four points in the initiation of a candidate so very impressive in their application as to be called *perfect* points. Their explanation in a moral sense implies temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice, which are called the cardinal virtues of Masonry, and without an exhibit of these, no man can travel or work as a Freemason. I mean emphatically to affirm that, however exceptions may be cited—and in so widely extended an organization, it would be unreasonable not to anticipate some exceptions—none but a good and true man, who brings forth the evident fruits of righteousness in the sight of the world, can gain admission as a visitor at the door of a Masonic Lodge. If he is *intemperate*, the fact is *prima facie* evidence that he is no Mason. If he is *profligate*, he bears the clearest mark of an impostor. If he is *indiscreet* in the handling of our secret treasures, he cannot be a Mason. Were I at liberty, I might state innumerable instances in proof, that these assertions are correct. But the history of every Masonic Lodge which is situated in the path of travel, will sufficiently corroborate them. Symbolically, the cause of his rejection at our portals may be expressed in these words: *try the tools to him*. Put upon him the twenty-four inch gage—there is no part found in him *for God*. Lay the unerring plumb-line to him—he does not stand erect even in the sight of man; how much less of God. Apply the square to him—there is too much

* The allusion was to the veteran Mason, beloved in Florida as the very apple of the eye, Governor THOMAS BROWN.

redundancy of vice to fill its sacred angles. Bring forward the level—who would acknowledge an equality with one who has no self-respect? Present the circle of universal benevolence; lay into his hand our precious jewels—he has no eyes to see, no soul to admire them. Lead him to the foot of Jacob's ladder—he has no moral strength to climb its mystic rounds; nay Faith itself, its first, its lowest round, is too high for him; how then could he ever attain to Hope, how to Charity? Give him the trowel—alas, the cement of brotherly love and unselfish affection has no coherency that can unite *him* with *us*. Cast him out, cast him out *amongst the rubbish*, for there is no place in all our Temple which such a man can fill!

These observations must have convinced you, if any assurances were needed, that in the work of the coming year, whatever oppositions and difficulties you may have to encounter, they who are with you in the Masonic work are very many, and they are very strong. The encouragements to do valiantly that which you are pledged in your installation to do, are numerous and precious. The rewards of the faithful Mason are ample to stimulate the brother to his utmost powers, and the way is clear.

Shall we take a brief review of these labors as they are likely to present themselves before you in the performance of official duty?

The success and permanency of a Lodge depend, in a very great degree, upon the zeal and efficiency of its officers. This is the case in all associations, but more especially so in this of ours. There is such a complete abandonment of power and responsibility to these men, in their election and installation, that practically *they constitute the Lodge* for the time being. Are they active? the vital blood of Masonry leaps healthfully through all veins. Are they sluggish? coldness, carelessness, and inattention creep over the members, and all the powers of Masonic life move feebly there. Are they well informed? Light animates every soul, and the Lodge becomes as “a city set upon a hill which cannot be hid.” Are they ignorant? stupidity bears the fruits of obstinacy, and the purposes sought for in the establishment of the Lodge all fail. Such, with remarkable uniformity, is my experience of Freemasonry in every section of the land.

And this is, if possible, even more evident in Grand Lodges than subordinate Lodges. These contrasts are more plainly seen there, perhaps, because the actors are set in higher places. A Grand body in Masonry, which rejoices in a Hubbard, a Lewis, a Tucker, a French, a Rockwell, a Wilson, a Mackey, feels the influence of those compounds of knowledge and zeal to its utmost extremities. The zeal of the head is infused into all the members, and the autocratic character of our Institution is clearly manifested. We are led in Freemasonry, not by majorities, but by minorities, by minorities of one. A character eminent for Masonic attainments presses forward in the work, and his

fellow-laborers follow gladly after him. May I allude, in justification of this remark, to a few, who, though dead, bear yet the gavel in your Lodges, wield yet the sceptre in your Chapters, draw yet the designs upon your Trestle-Boards, and to all practical ends live, yea, and *will* live co-workers with your oldest and wisest—*Duval, Bronson, Douglas?*

The labors of the officers of a Grand Lodge are, rightly viewed, many and arduous. Honors can only be acquired by services; the *election* is no honor; it is the *service* which ennobles the man and justifies the election. To say that every Grand Officer should thoroughly qualify himself to instruct in all departments of Masonry, its ceremonies, its histories, and its laws, is not to say too much. By this method, the great men whose names I have cited have attained to fame which can never fade. The old practice required Grand Officers to visit each subordinate Lodge at least once during their terms of official service respectively, to the end that they might quiet strife, enlink the Craft, enlighten the community, and enforce the authority of the Grand Lodge. This were indeed a "consummation devoutly to be wished." Such a course would justify any expense, would extend Freemasonry upon the soundest basis, and best of all, would cement the blocks and fasten the timbers built into the Masonic Temple. In this work, the words of Elisha were peculiarly applicable. Viewing as adjuncts all the wishes of the Craft, and the innumerable blessings to grow out of it, compared with the feeble opposition it would excite, it might well be said, "many more are they who are for you than they who are against you."

But, as custom has made little allowance for this ancient usage, it remains that the dwelling of each Grand Officer be a crotona of Masonic science, and he the Pythagoras to teach therein. Thither would the members of the adjacent subordinate Lodges go up for instruction. There would be seen the Master exhibiting in himself that beautiful paradox proper to Masonry, humble search for light and unquestioned dispensation of it. To that quarter would be directed inquiries upon Masonic law and usage as to a place where doubts might be solved and knotty points unloosed. This, indeed, would be exemplifying the Masonic canon in its fullest spirit, "the honors and responsibilities of the Institution are commensurate."

The work to be done is a great work, and the time is short. *Earnestness* must be the watchword to him who would leave his mark in the Masonic Temple before he is called forever thence. "Goodness and earnestness," says a late writer,* "are nearly the same thing. In the language in which the Bible was written, there was one word which expressed them both. What we translate as good man, in Greek is literally *earnest*. The Greeks felt that *to be earnest* was nearly identical with being good. But, however, there is a day in a man's life

* Rev. F. W. Robertson.

when he must be in earnest—it does not follow he will be good. *Behold the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.* That is a sound that will thunder through the most fast-locked slumber, and rouse men whom sermons cannot rouse. But that will not make them holy. Earnestness in life, brethren, *that is goodness.* Wake in death you must, for it is an earnest thing to die. Shall it be thus, I pray you? Shall it be the voice of death which first says *arise*, at the very moment when it says sleep on forever? Shall it be the bridal train sweeping by and the shutting of the doors, and the discovery that the lamp is gone out? Shall that be the first time you know that it is an earnest thing to live? Let us feel that we have been doing—learn what time is, sliding from you and not stopping when you stop. Awake, thou that sleepest.”

The injunction conveyed in the words of a divine personage, “*What thou doest, do quickly,*” is taught in Masonic symbols and usages with much force. Elections of officers are held annually, that our friends may be thereby prompted to active efforts in their respective spheres, *because their time is short.* At the building of King Solomon’s Temple, the labors of each week were closed the sixth hour of the sixth day, a summing up of service was made, wages were paid and the workmen released. Thus each week was a type of human life, and the craftsmen were enjoined to do in season, that is, *with dispatch*, all that was enjoined upon them. Nothing is truer, my brethren, than that fame and honors and rewards only accrue in this life or in the life to come, to those who industriously pursue their calling while it is called to-day, knowing that the night cometh when no man can work.

How cheering is the brighter side of the glorious work in which we, as Freemasons, are concerned! Who would not give his labor, of mind and body, to advance such a cause? It is *truth*—unmingled, unchangeable truth! What a theme is truth! In the language of a reverend and distinguished brother from Georgia,* whose presence to-day forms a pleasing episode in this delightful occasion, “Truth is light opposing darkness, both in the physical and moral world. It is wisdom pressing against error. It is virtue warring against vice; knowledge dissipating ignorance; honesty, purity, and integrity battling with corruption, perfidy, and superstition. All science, art, and law—all beauty, perfection, and harmony, are so many beams emanating from the orb of *universal truth.*” And this glorious principle is one of the immortal triad which constitute the three principal tenets of Masonry. With her sister virtues, Brotherly Love and Relief, she makes a code of ethics, gracious, powerful, divine. In relation to that beautiful tenet *Brotherly love*, may I say:

* Rev. Creed Fulton, President of the Southern Masonic Female College, Covington, Georgia.

The loving tie we feel
No language can reveal ;
 'Tis seen in the sheen of a fond brother's eye ;
 It trembles on the ear,
 When, melting with a tear,
 A brother bids us cease to sigh.
 Behold how good and how pleasant
 For brothers in unity to dwell !
 As heaven's dews are spread
 On Sion's sacred head,
 The blessings of the Lord we feel.

'Twas at a sufferer's head,
 Now mouldering with the dead,
 This bond, ah ! so fond, was discovered first to me.
 I saw his dying eye
 Light up with speechless joy,
 And felt how strong that Love must be.

I ever will proclaim,
 With gratitude, the name
 Of Him, the Divine, who hath granted this to me,
 That weary though I stray,
 O'er nature's rugged way,
I never, never lone can be.

There's some, I know, will smile,
 And others may revile—
 'Tis so, as we know, with the evil heart alway ;
 But if I can but prove
 Through life a Mason's love,
 I little care what man may say.
 Behold how good and how pleasant
 For brothers in unity to dwell !
 As Heaven's dews are spread
 On Sion's sacred head,
 The blessings of the Lord we feel.

Do such expressions seem but the rhapsodies of the rhymster ? Hear, then, the explication of Brotherly Love, as taught in our Lodges and made the standard of our Masonic work : " By the exercise of brotherly love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family—the high, the low, the rich, the poor—who, as created by our Almighty Parent and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support, and protect each other. On this principle, Masonry unites men of each country, sect and opinion, and cultivates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance."

This, beautiful as it is, is excelled, if possible, by the Masonic explication of *Relief*. "To relieve the distressed," says that well-known passage first rehearsed in the hearing of every brother on the well-remembered night of his initiation, "is a duty incumbent on all men, but particularly on Masons, who are linked together by an indissoluble

chain of sincere affection. To soothe the unhappy—to sympathize with their misfortunes—to compassionate their miseries and to restore peace to their troubled mind, is the great aim we have in view. On this basis we form our friendships and establish our connections." The same doctrine, and in language equally forcible, is enunciated in a higher branch, the Christian orders of Masonry. "In the character of Knight Templar," says the Observance of the Order, "we are bound to give alms to poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar—to succor the needy, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted."

In all these injunctions, arduous as such labors may appear, it may with truth be said, more are they who are *for us*, than those who are *against us*. *Against us* are arrayed the cavilings of evil-designing men, the clamors of ignorance, the rage of rejected applicants, and worst of all, the corruption and selfishness of our own evil nature and the sluggishness of our own hearts. *With us* are united the multitude of the wise and good, the generous and devoted, the compassionate and industrious, who in all lands have desired to build up the temple of the Lord. How the imagination is aroused as we con over the great army of laborers engaged in this work. At seven o'clock, P. M., this day, the gavel of Lodges in Eastern Maine begin to summon the workmen to duty. As the evening shadows move westward, the sound is taken up by those lying in the different meridians through New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, and thus on, mile by mile, to the broad Pacific. So wide is this field, that by the time the Lodges of Oregon and California are lighting up and preparing for work, those of Maine are reminded, by the approach of low twelve, that it is time for them to close! Could an angel pass swiftly along this broad Masonic track, he could hear, as it were, one steady battery of Gavel sounds, one consecutive murmur of *so mote it be*. The sun never rises upon a land where his own face is not used as an emblem in Masonic Lodges; the moon never looks with her broad and placid countenance upon the habitations of men, where her crescent does not appear in Masonic conjunction; the stars cast no light, with all their glittering, but is symbolically reflected by their counterparts upon Masonic walls.

Very many are they who are *for us*. The smiles and approval of woman are ours. Durst any deny this assertion? I stand here to maintain it. I have met the faithful wife, the affectionate daughter, in the homes of my brethren in all sections of the confederacy, and I know what I assert. It needs only that they be informed of *the purposes* of Freemasonry—it needs only that they perceive by the keen, inquisitive eye of female affection that *Masonry improves the heart* of a man, and they are its warmest votaries. Shall we deny them this little gratification? Shall the loving wife, waiting patiently in the small hours of the morning for the returning step of him, without whose dear compan-

ionship the night were too gloomy and slumber would fail to cheer, welcoming with uncomplaining fervor that returning step, thus laying upon the altar of Masonry a sacrifice as true, as heartfelt as the mother of Samuel made to the High God—shall she be denied the knowledge of that which is her due, and her reasonable curiosity outraged by the unkind silence of Masonic ignorance? Or shall her inquisitive eye fail to discover that her husband is made wiser and better, as well as happier by the associations of Masonry? What, shall she be told that Temperance is a cardinal virtue in this Order, and yet her Masonic husband intemperate—that holiness to the Lord is an essential doctrine in Freemasonry, and yet her husband dare take the name of God in vain! Shame upon the man who would go from the sacred retreat of Masonic friendship, with the closing prayer echoing in his ear, and his own responsive *so mote it be* lingering upon his tongue, and thus degrade himself—himself and his Lodge, and the entire Fraternity in the sight of his wife! I again testify that despite the evil conduct of some Masons, which naturally enough prejudices their families against our Order, the mass of female influence, represented by wife, sister, daughter and mother, is *with us*, and thus more are they that be with than against us.

The generous character of the people of Florida, evinced in their world-renowned hospitality and social virtues, is an auxiliary of the highest character to Freemasonry. Freemasonry never did and never can prosper among a morose, unsocial people. It is an institution demanding sunny hearts, cheerful spirits, generous natures. Such, without flattery, abound in your flowery land. Here may be appreciated in the largest measure that covenant which enables its possessors to sing to one another in such strains as these :

Thine in the quarry, whence the stone
For mystic workmanship is drawn ;
By Jordan's shore,
On Zarthan's plain,
Though faint and weary, thine alone!
The gloomy mine knows not a ray,
The weary exhausts the day,
But love keeps bright
The faithful heart,
And sings, *I'm thine without decay.*

Thine on the hill, whose cedars rear
Their lofty forms and foliage fair ;
Each graceful shaft
And deathless leaf
Of Masons' love the emblem are.
Thine when a smile pervades the Heaven—
Thine when the sky's with thunder riven ;
The echo swells
Through answering hills
My Mason's prayer—for thee 'tis given.

Thine in the temple, holy place—
 Where silence reigns, the type of peace—
 With grip and sign
 And mystic line,
 My Mason's love I do confess.
 Each block I raise our friendship grows,
 Cemented firmly, ne'er to loose,
 And when complete,
 Our work we greet,
 Thine in the joy my bosom knows.

Thine at the midnight in the cave—
Thine on the floats upon the wave—
 By Joppa's hill,
 By Kedron's rill,
 And thine when Sabbath rest we have.
 Yes, yes, dear friend, my spirit saith,
I'm thine until and after death!
 No bounds control
 The Mason's soul
 Cemented with the Mason's faith.¹

To those familiar with the generous impulses of your people, it is no matter of surprise that Freemasonry has attained a good foothold, has struck its roots deeply down, has spread its branches widely abroad the State of Florida; nor that your citizens, the most eminent in political, social, and other relations of society, are among its most devoted members; nor that your wives and daughters rank publicly amongst its friends; nor that the ministers of Christ's holy religion are openly its advocates and friends; nor that you have gone on "from strength to strength" acquiring and disseminating the light of Masonry, until yours has become the second in all the grand galaxy of 36 Grand Lodges in patronage of Masonic literature, as witness your noble action of this week.*

Finally, in the warfare for truth which Freemasonry maintains, the aid and blessing of Almighty God, in whom is placed all our trust, may be confidently anticipated, so long as we do His gracious will. This secures us in the promise that more are they who are for us than they who are against us. "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God;" and, "if God be for us, who can be against us?" In this spirit, it is not presumptuous for us to affirm, in the language of one of His ancient servants, that "we are persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God."

*Alluding to the order made at the present session of the Grand Lodge to provide each of its subordinates with a thorough library of Masonic literature.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA:

Held in the City of Tallahassee, January 10, 1859.

M. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Master*.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida convened at Masonic Hall, in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 10th, A. D. 1859, A. L. 5859, it being the annual communication of said Grand Lodge.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY, Grand Master.
R. W. EDWARD R. IVES, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEORGE F. BALTZELL, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. HENRY I. STEWART, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. JOHN PENNY, Grand Chaplain.
W. A. J. SMILEY, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAMES DEWITT, Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother GEORGE DAMON, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Master THOMAS BROWN, with a due representation of subordinate Lodges, members, and visitors.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and with prayer by the Rev. Brother John Penny, Grand Chaplain.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of last session was dispensed with, printed copies being in the hands of all the members.

The Grand Master appointed Brothers H. I. Stewart, George F. Baltzell, and Thomas K. Leonard a committee on Credentials and Returns.

On motion, all Master Masons in good standing were invited to seats in this Grand Lodge.

Called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY, Grand Master.
R. W. E. R. IVES, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. D. C. DAWKINS, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. H. I. STEWART, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JOHN B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS HAYWARD, Grand Treasurer.
R. Rev. JOHN PENNY, Grand Chaplain.
W. A. J. SMILEY, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAMES DEWITT, Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother GEORGE DAMON, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Master R. K. CALL, Brother J. WAYLES BAKER, Representative from the Grand Lodge of Alabama, with a due representation, members, and visitors.

The M. W. Grand Master delivered the following address :

"Another year has passed, and obedient to the provisions of the Constitution of our loved Order, we have assembled in Grand convocation to receive and compare returns of the past year's labor, to provide by wise and prudent legislation to remedy evils, if any exist, and to adopt such measures as in our opinion will promote the best interests of our noble Order.

"Then let us return thanks to the great I AM who has ever watched over us, and through whose goodness and mercy we are again permitted to assemble around this altar, in this hall dedicated to universal benevolence and acts of the most noble and exalted charity ; let us meet as Masons, as brothers, thoroughly imbued in the principles and precepts of our ancient and honorable Order, among whom no contention should ever arise, but that noble emulation of who can best work or best agree.

"My official acts during the recess of the Grand Lodge have been remitted, from the fact, that at no former period in the history of our Grand Lodge have we been in a more prosperous condition. From the reports of the Deputy Grand Master, E. R. Ives, and Brother D. P. Holland, Grand Lecturer, who have visited most of the Lodges in this jurisdiction during the year, I am assured that peace and harmony, the chief supports of Masonry, pervade our Order, to an extent most cheering and gratifying to the hearts of all true Masons.

"I would call the attention of this Grand body to the report (accompanying this) of the Grand Lecturer of his visit to Franklin Lodge, No. —, at Apalachicola. The example set us by our sister Lodge, is indeed truly Masonic, worthy of imitation and the highest commendation.

"I have issued two dispensations for new Lodges, the requirements of the Constitution and Grand Lodge in each case being complied with—Douglass Lodge at White Springs, Hamilton county ; the other at Fernandina, Nassau county. Each of these Lodges will present a report of their proceedings to this Grand body at this session, and apply for charters.

"I appointed Brother George L. F. Birdsong, of Thomaston, Geo., Representative of this Grand Lodge near that of Georgia. I also ap-

pointed Brother Thomas Hayward my proxy on the 27th of June last, to dedicate a new Masonic Hall at Micosukee, in Leon county, which he performed in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to the brethren immediately interested.

"I lay before this Grand body for its consideration a Circular Letter received from Brother John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and permanent member of the committee of the Universal Masonic Congress recently assembled in the city of Paris, France, and would recommend to this Grand Lodge to take some action upon it during this session.

"I would call the attention of this Grand body to an evil, which I fear is increasing to an extent already injurious to many of the Craft and the cause of Masonry: it is intemperance—the corner-stone of almost every vice. Temperance, as intelligent Masons, you are all aware, is one of the cardinal virtues of Masonry, and should be cherished and practiced as such by us all, at all times and at all places, or we must bear our part of the burden of reproach which attaches to such a vice. I hope this Grand body will enact some law making it specially imperative upon the proper officers of the several subordinate Lodges to take prompt and decisive action on this subject. Vague or abstract resolutions will not do: the attack is now acute, and the treatment should be prompt and vigorous.

"I would also call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the recent action of Washington Lodge, No. 2, in the town of Quincy, in regard to the establishment of a Masonic School, under its auspices and patronage—an example I wish to see followed by other Lodges in this jurisdiction, wherever such an institution is practicable. At the time the present Hall was built, a suitable room was designed and finished for such a purpose, but circumstances beyond its control prevented the accomplishment of that purpose until the present time. I bespeak for it the good will of the Fraternity throughout the jurisdiction, and hope the day is not far distant when it will be regarded as an honor to its projector and a benefit to the Craft, by dispensing light and knowledge to the orphans and indigent children of the brotherhood.

"Permit me, brethren, to again thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me in twice electing me to preside over your deliberations. That the duties of the office have been imperfectly performed I am fully aware, and ask of you the necessary allowance.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"THOMAS Y. HENRY, *Grand Master.*"

Brother Thos. Hayward offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Brother E. R. Ives for a Daguerreian likeness of P. G. M. Douglas, and that said likeness be preserved among the precious relics of this Grand Lodge.

Upon the presentation of a Past Grand Master's Jewel to Brother Thomas Brown, the M. W. Grand Master said :

"BROTHER BROWN :—At the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, a resolution was passed directing the Grand Master to procure a Past Grand Master's Jewel* and present the same to you. In the name of the Grand Lodge of Florida, I now present to you this Jewel as a testimonial of its high appreciation of the valuable services you have rendered to the Grand Lodge of Florida and to the cause of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction ; and in that sense I request your acceptance of it, with the hope that you will long live to wear it as a member of this Grand Lodge."

To which P. G. M. Brown replied :

"M. W. SIR :—I accept this beautifully designed and highly finished Jewel, procured by order of the Grand Lodge, and now presented to me by you in such flattering terms, with emotions too strong for words to express my grateful sense of such high distinction. The approval by my brethren of any service I may have been so fortunate as to render to the cause of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction, is the reward for which I have labored, but, accompanied by this rich testimonial, I fear it is an honor due more to their kind consideration than to my merit. It is an honor to which I have never aspired, but which I thankfully accept and will wear to my life's end as a voluntary donation of the Grand Lodge of which I have been thirty years a member."

Brother Thomas Brown, chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence, then read his report, which was adopted unanimously.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have received, since the last annual communication, the published proceedings of thirty Grand Lodges, which we have examined with as much care and attention as their magnitude and our limited time and ability would permit, and now beg leave to report the result of our labors, which consist mainly in presenting a condensed view of the statistics of our sister Grand Lodges, as far as the reports of Grand Secretaries have enabled us to do so, and in notices of several questions of Masonic law which are yet undetermined.

"The attentive Mason, who will look back to the time immediately succeeding the *dark reign* of anti-Masonry, and will trace up to the present day the progress which has been made in the system of Grand Lodge communications, will be struck with wonder and admiration at the vast growth and improvement that has been made in so short a period. For a few loose sheets or *small* pamphlets, reporting the names of Grand Officers, expulsions, and the like, we have now volumes, containing hundreds of pages, filled with valuable Masonic literature and useful tables of Grand Lodge statistics, evincing a degree

* See description, in Appendix.

of labor and research unknown in any former age of Masonic history, and which must eventually sweep away the accumulated rubbish, and bring our Order back to its old original landmarks, within which alone we can maintain our right to the title of 'Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.' ANTIQUITY is the principle of our Order, and distinguishes it from all modern imitative and improved associations. One great evil is prominent in much that is written—too great a desire to *improve Masonry*. It is to be seen in the multiplicity of written constitutions adopted by Grand Lodges, and in a restless spirit, which proposes alterations and amendments. We see this in the history of the Grand Lodge of Florida. Not yet numbering thirty years of existence, we have had several new constitutions, and not one that has not been amended; and if the amendments were improvements, we might hope in time to settle down on something that would be permanent; but, as in all instances of hasty and inconsiderate legislation, they tend to impair. All this may be traced to the want of a correct knowledge of what are the *old constitutions and regulations* of Masonry, called 'ANCIENT LANDMARKS' (which cannot be altered or changed), and the inherent right of Grand Lodges to legislate for the benefit of the Craft in their respective jurisdictions. The correction of this evil we think we see in these Grand Lodge reports. Truth is the point at which we are all laboring to arrive. We have no partisan, sectarian, or sectional interests to excite prejudices and asperities, which may divert us from the right way. Light is what we are all in search of. This is the age of examination and investigation; the Craft are all inquiring for the right way; and although there may be some zealous Masons who, for the want of better information, may direct the inquirer to the wrong way, yet we see many skillful and experienced craftsmen who have entered the quarries to examine the work and correct the designs drawn on the Trestle-Board. Light is being disseminated, and knowledge is increasing. It is to the influence of Grand Lodge reports may be attributed the union of contending Masonic bodies in the jurisdiction of New York, and to a correct understanding of Masonic principles in the Canadian Provinces, which have brought about a harmonious affiliation of all the Craft under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada—events which will be hailed with a thrill of joy by all good and true Masons in the United States, and, we hope, throughout the world. Schism and discord have been banished, and peace and harmony reign triumphant throughout our Masonic heritage.

ARKANSAS.

"This Grand Lodge held its annual communication in the city of Little Rock, commencing 2d November, 1857. Their proceedings for 1858 have not yet been received. Forty-eight Lodges were represented. The calendar reports one hundred and thirteen, and fifty-seven

made no return ; four U. D. The Grand Master, M. W. D. F. Armstrong, in his annual address, reports nine dispensations granted. The Grand Master presents a list of decisions on Masonic law, which was referred to a committee, who report that they 'concur in and approve of all his decisions except those hereinafter named.' First, 'In relation to the trial of offending brothers,' they say, 'Your committee know of no law to prohibit the publication of the expulsion of a Mason for un-masonic conduct ;' and they offer the following :

"*Resolved*, That all expulsions by subordinate Lodges be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.'

"This we think Masonic law and usage requires ; but we do not think suspension for non-payment of dues and rejections should be published.

"*Resolved*, That the regulation prohibiting a Lodge from balloting more than once on the petition of a candidate, unless the brother, during the same communication, states, that through mistake or misapprehension he cast a blackball, be so changed as to give the Worshipful Master discretionary power, if there be but one blackball, to pass the ballot the second time.'

"We think the Worshipful Master possesses this power, and that it cannot be taken from him ; and that it is his duty on all occasions, when but one blackball appears, to order a second ballot, charging the brethren to be particular in depositing their ballots—and that the second ballot is final.

"*Resolved*, That the resolution found on No. 111 of printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge for 1856, adopted in 1854, permitting Entered Apprentices and Fellow Craft Masons, to vote for admissions and advancements in their respective Lodges be repealed.'

"We believe that such a resolution was an innovation on the body of Masonry. None but Master Masons can vote for admissions and advancements.

"The Grand Master favors the enactment of a code of by-laws for the government of subordinate Lodges, and says : 'As to the province of the Grand Lodge to make by-laws for the subordinates, there can, I think, be no doubt on the subject. She has the power to regulate all the by-laws in the jurisdiction, and none are in force unless by her sanction.' We not only entertain no doubt as to this power, but we think it is the duty of all Grand Lodges to exercise it.

"The Grand Master appears sanguine on the subject of St. John's College, and says : 'This College, brethren, has received a good deal of opposition—much more than many of you are apprised of. But amid all this opposition and contention, the enterprise has been gradually, though slowly moving on ; and now the building committee have means enough in their hands to enable them to erect one wing of the building.'

"Our opinion in regard to such institutions has been freely and fully expressed, yet we wish ample success to our brethren who think otherwise. We admire their energy and perseverance. The cornerstone of the College was laid in Masonic form on the 2nd day of the Grand Lodge. A procession was formed, and the ceremonies gone through, and an address was pronounced on the occasion by Brother E. H. English, in the presence of the largest assemblage of gentlemen and ladies ever witnessed in Little Rock.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewing the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges—Delaware only being absent—is in what we regard the true Masonic style and spirit, and written with great clearness and force. In noticing the proceedings of Illinois, on the subject of Intemperance, they say :

" 'A resolution was passed *requesting* the subordinate Lodges to *root out the evil of intemperance from among them, &c.*

" 'Notwithstanding the newspapers are in the habit of locating in *Arkansas* all the *ugly stories* which they publish for the amusement of their readers, we venture to state, without meaning to boast, that our Masonic Fraternity are as sober and virtuous generally, as they are in any of our sister jurisdictions ; yet it is mournfully true, that there are some intemperate brothers in our Lodges. There is, however, most assuredly, not a Lodge within our jurisdiction that would initiate a *drunkard*. But it not unfrequently happens here, as well as elsewhere, no doubt, that a very sober young man is made a Mason, and afterwards, in progress of time, he unfortunately becomes intemperate. It is a lamentable fact, that from the days of good old Noah, down to the present hour, many of our fallen race have been prone to the excessive use of intoxicating liquors; and a goodly number will drink them though they contain *strychnine* enough to *murder a wolf* ! It often happens that intemperance is a weakness with a brother, rather than a crime. He is a good man in all other respects, and the brethren are disposed to bear with him and forgive him "seventy-and-seven times," rather than to cut him off. Now, if the subordinate Lodges of Illinois, acting upon the *request* of their Grand Lodge, shall discover a successful process of *rooting out the evil of intemperance* from among them, we pray them to advise us of the *modus operandi* by which it is done, and we shall hope to see our Grand Lodge request its subordinates to put into operation the same *rooting* process. Not a hundred years ago, nor a thousand miles from this place, we saw a weak brother *rooting* in the mud, near the door of a grog shop; and as such brethren appear to be fond of *rooting*, they must not complain if they are *rooted* out of the Lodges.'

"Commenting on the address of the Grand Master of New Hampshire, the committee say :

"It has been said that the office of Grand Master of Masons is one

of the most honorable stations upon earth. How appropriate is it, therefore, for a man, filling that high station, to pay due reverence to the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, and to remind the Craft of their dependence upon, and obligations to Him, as does the M. W. Grand Master of New Hampshire, in his opening address. Every Mason upon the globe, of whatever nation, climate, or peculiar religion, acknowledges the existence of *the one true and ever living God*, the Maker of man, earth, and of all the worlds that blaze above us. No Mason, in his moments of reflection, and whilst under the influence of the teachings of the Order, will deliberately act with irreverence towards that Great Being.'

"L. E. Barber was elected M. W. Grand Master.

ALABAMA.

"Its annual communication was held in the city of Montgomery, commencing on Monday, 7th December, 1857; two hundred and seven Lodges were represented. Register of Lodges, two hundred and forty-six, and two U. D. The Grand Master, in his annual address, recommends the adoption by the Grand Lodge, of 'a uniform set of standard by-laws' for the subordinate Lodges. He says: 'The importance of this will be obvious to any one who will take the trouble to examine a half dozen sets of by-laws. Many of them are too verbose and complicated, whilst others contain provisions which, if not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, are at least in violation of its spirit.'

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented and referred to a select committee, who report the same back to the Grand Lodge and say: 'From a careful perusal of the same, they are able to say that it contains many sentiments which meet their approval, and advances Masonic views calculated to improve Masonry and impress its truths on all that need it.' But they recommend that the resolutions appended be not adopted.

M. W. J. McCaleb Wiley elected Grand Master; R. W. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

"The Grand Lodge of Canada held its third annual communication in the city of Toronto, Canada West, on the 14th day of July, 1858. A constitutional number of Lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The committee on Credentials reported forty-four chartered Lodges represented. The M. W. Grand Master, Brother WILLIAM MERCER WILSON, read his annual address, which is a well arranged and able Masonic document, from which we take the following sketch of a 'Model Master,' which will require from us no apology for the space we give to it in this report:

"**A MODEL MASTER.**—To become the model Master of a Lodge should be the ambition of every brother, and to discharge with efficiency and zeal the duties of that important office should be his most anxious desire. The duties are not confined to the mere repetition of a few phrases, learned by rote, but he should be enabled to instruct the Craft, not only as to the meaning and origin of our ceremonies, but also to to explain to them the philosophy which is veiled in its allegories and illustrated by its symbols. He should be able, also, to convince his brethren that all science and all art, legitimately directed, are but lines that radiate towards the great "I AM;" that the sciences are the *media* by which we are led to contemplate the goodness, greatness, wisdom, and power of the Great Architect of the Universe; and that the Arts are the modes we have developed of expressing our sense and admiration of the wondrous glories of an Almighty Father which are scattered around us. The Master of a Lodge should, also, in his life and in his conversation, be a model for his brethren to admire and imitate, and should himself practice, out of the Lodge, those great moral doctrines and virtues which he inculcates within its walls. He should be punctual and methodical in all things, and both by his character and conduct, command the respect, the esteem, and good will of all men; for, as the Master is supreme in his Lodge and distinguished by his position in the Craft, so should he also be distinguished as the possessor of an irreproachable character, a dignified demeanor, an expanded intellect, and a liberal education. Happy and prosperous must those Lodges be which are governed by such men!—their time of meeting is looked forward to by the brethren with the most pleasing anticipations. Prompt at the hour, every brother is at his station, and the work is carried on with pleasure and profit. The Worshipful Master who presides over his Lodge with ability, firmness, and decision (for without force of character there can be no force of impression); whose manner is courteous yet dignified; whose decisions are consonant with reason and Masonic Law; and who dispenses light and information among the Craft, will ever be regarded by his brethren as one who is entitled to their highest respect and their most fraternal regard. The anxious inquirer after Truth and Light feels that he may appeal with confidence and safety to such a ruler of a Lodge as to one who is not only able and willing to reward and advance him according to his ability and worth, but to one whose duty and high privilege it is to diffuse the beams of light and to scatter abroad the seeds of truth. The aspirant, animated by the love of truth, uninfluenced by mercenary motives, duly appreciating the philosopher's apothegm, that "knowlodge is power," and prompted by higher desires, eagerly presses forward, believing in a nobler destiny and aspiring after a brighter record; it is the Master's duty to assist him in his research—it is his high privilege to "pour the balm of instruction o'er the mind," to fill it with light, to stir up its powers, and to

raise it to its proper supremacy over matter. It is for him to bestow upon the neophyte—if he finds him worthy and qualified—not only wealth but power also ; not the *wealth* that corrupts its owner, nor the *power* which enslaves its dependent, but the ennobling *wealth* of wisdom and the enduring *power* of knowledge.

“ On the subject of the union in New York, he says :

“ ‘Among the important events of the past year, one has recently transpired which must excite a thrill of pleasure and elicit an expression of satisfaction and delight in every true Masonic heart on this continent—the unhappy disunions which for so many years have kept apart our brethren in the State of New York, and which have been a cause of reproach to our noble Order, no longer exist. The demon of discord has been vanquished, and peace, love, and harmony reign triumphant. The warm grasp of brotherhood has been cordially given and received, and the Masons of that State are again united under one banner. May this union be perpetual, and may the memory of their past differences only remain as an additional incitement to increased exertions in the great and glorious cause for which we are all associated.’

“ The M. W. Grand Master closed his address with the following notice of the arrangements for *the union of the whole Canadian Craft*, which were subsequently so happily consummated :

“ ‘The various matters to which I have now directed your attention, although all possessing strong claims upon your notice and consideration, will, I imagine, be considered as only second in importance to the great and engrossing subject which will, at an early period of the session, be brought up for discussion. I allude to the efforts which have been made to secure a full and perfect *union of the whole Canadian Craft*. In compliance with the desire of the Grand Lodge, as expressed at our last annual meeting, I appointed a committee to meet a similar committee from our brethren who were at that time working under English warrants, directing their attention to the instructions promulgated by this Grand Lodge for their guidance. It is not my intention at this moment to enter into any detailed account of the various attempts at communication which have taken place upon this subject, but will merely say, that all the documents connected with it are now in the hands of the Grand Secretary, and are open to your inspection. I adopt this course, because I am delighted to say that I believe your committee, acting in strict accordance with the letter and spirit of their instructions, have been met in a similar liberal and Masonic spirit by those brethren with whom they were appointed to treat, and that a full and perfect understanding has been arrived at ; so that, in a few hours, I trust, a union of the whole Canadian Craft—upon satisfactory and honorable terms—will be consummated, and *all the Masons of Canada ranged under the banner of this Grand Lodge*. I feel that it is unne-

essary for me to say how I, aided by many zealous and worthy brethren of both parties, have labored to effect this great object ; nor need I attempt to express here the unbounded pleasure which it will give me, before retiring from the proud position which, by your kind favor, I have so long occupied, to hear that *union* proclaimed within these walls. In the hope that nothing may occur to mar the bright and pleasing prospect, I will now leave you to decide upon the various matters brought before you ; and may we now, and at all times, be enabled to discharge with fidelity and zeal the various duties devolving upon us, so that, at the close of our day of probation and labor, we may not only escape the degradation and punishment which was heaped upon that careless and unfaithful steward, who could only exclaim, "Lord, here is thy talent laid up in a napkin," but be able to advance humbly, and with faith and confidence, to our glorious Grand Master, from Him to receive our wages and reward.'

"To present anything like a comprehensive view of the proceedings which so happily resulted in an union of the *whole Craft in Canada*, your committee must necessarily make large extracts from the proceedings before us ; but we will endeavor to present nothing that will not be absolutely necessary to a clear understanding of the whole question.

"The committee appointed on the part of the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada, having failed to agree upon articles of union at their joint meeting in August, 5857 : 'In the month of September following, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, dissolved the Provincial Grand Lodge, and declared themselves an Independent Grand Lodge, under the style and title of "The Ancient Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada."

"Subsequently to the erection of said Ancient Grand Lodge, overtures were received from R. W. Brother T. G. Ridout, in a letter to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for a renewal of the negotiations for union between the two bodies ; and the suggested Articles of Union, by R. W. Brother T. D. Harington, were submitted on behalf of the said Ancient Grand Lodge for the consideration of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

"The Grand Master thereon summoned a meeting of the Grand Officers, for the purpose of considering the subject, and the following are the minutes of its proceedings :

"MINUTES.—At a meeting of committee of Officers of the Grand Lodge of Canada, specially convened by order of the M. W. the Grand Master, held at Hamilton on the 7th and 8th days of May, A. L. 5858, for the purpose of considering certain correspondence and suggestions which had been received on the subject of a permanent union of all the Lodges in the Province under one Grand Lodge,

"Present: M. W. Brother Wm. M. Wilson, Grand Master, presiding.

“ R. W. Brothers W. C. Stephens, Capt. Thompson Wilson, James Daniel, Richard Bull, Thos. B. Harris, John Osborne, Charles Magill, John R. Holden and V. W. Brothers F. J. Rastrick, H. Crouse, and H. Grist.

“ The M. W. Grand Master submitted for the consideration and opinion of the committee a letter he had received on the 4th inst. from R. W. Brother T. G. Ridout, which enclosed a copy of “ Proposed Articles of Union between the Grand Lodges of Canada, submitted for the consideration of the Craft, by R. W. Brother T. D. Harington,” which proposal R. W. Brother T. G. Ridout expressed his belief “ was well adapted to the wants of the Craft under the Ancient Grand Lodge,” and suggested “ that if the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada was of opinion that the Grand Lodge of Canada would accept the same as a satisfactory basis upon which to found a union, that the sense of the whole Craft under the two jurisdictions should be taken at a special meeting of each body, to be summoned for that purpose at an early day.”

“ The committee having read the letter from R. W. Brother Ridout, and the suggested Articles of Union, and having likewise read an address to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont, from M. W. Brother Philip C. Tucker, its Grand Master, which appeared in the printed proceedings of that Grand Lodge in January last, and also a report to the M. W. Grand Lodge of South Carolina, by W. Brother Albert G. Mackey, its Grand Secretary, which appeared in the printed proceedings of that Grand Lodge in December last, and also various other documents and letters relating thereto, and having likewise read letters from R. W. Brother A. Bernard, Past Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Brother W. B. Simpson, District Deputy Grand Master, and R. W. Brother Kivas Tully, the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, expressive of their opinions on the subject, which were carefully considered and discussed, it was unanimously

“ *Resolved*, That the committee are fully aware that the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada, whilst themselves actuated by a sincere desire for the welfare of the Craft in the Province, in their action in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1855, readily concede an equal sincerity of motives to those brethren who considered that the proper time had not then arrived for taking the final step—which was to sever their connection with their mother Grand Lodges—without efforts being first made to obtain the necessary concessions from the Grand Lodge of England for ameliorating the condition of the Canadian Craft.

“ That the prompt recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada by one of its mother Grand Lodges—the Grand Lodge of Ireland—and by nineteen other Grand Lodges, affords abundant confirmation of that

action having been taken in strict accordance with Masonic law and usage.

“That the desire for union so fraternally expressed, not only in the communications referred to the consideration of this committee, but also by the brethren generally, of itself shows that on that point no diversity of opinion exists between the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada and those brethren who at the time did not concur in its formation, and that whether the proper time for taking such a step had or had not then arrived, which has been confessedly the only point of difference, such doubt has now been removed, and all are agreed that Masonry in Canada should possess its one Grand Lodge.

“The committee therefore hail with pleasure the prospect of an immediate union of all the Masons in the Province under one Grand Lodge, and would therefore propose that all should unite, in every respect as if they had originally concurred in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

“That the maintenance of the dignity of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the future, must be an object of equal interest to all the Canadian Fraternity, and too much care cannot, therefore, be taken to avoid any disrespect or cause of offense to those Grand Lodges who have so favorably recognized the exertions of the Canadian Craft for the advancement of the Order, and have taken such a fraternal interest in their movements.

“That for the consummation of the union with ceremonies befitting the auspicious occasion, the day most convenient for all parties be selected, the committee suggesting the 14th day of July next—a large proportion of the brethren in all portions of the Province having been summoned to meet in Toronto on that day, for which they will probably have made their arrangements.

“That the first business of such meeting be, to proceed to a new election of officers.

“That in order to render the proposed union of the Canadian Craft perfect and complete, it is essential that all Grand Lodges, and all private Lodges in the Province should be afforded an opportunity of concurring in this union, so that all their Past Provincial Grand Officers may at once assume similar rank in the Grand Lodge, and that all Canadian Lodges may be placed on the Grand Lodge Register in numerical order, according to antiquity, and that for such purpose a special meeting of Grand Lodge be called within six months from the date of this meeting, for arranging the proposed union.

“The foregoing appears to the committee of the Grand Lodge of Canada to form a fair basis for a union of the Craft in Canada. All parties claiming for themselves, and according to others, equal sincerity of motive—all agreeing in the grand principle of a Grand Lodge of Canada being a matter of present and imperative necessity—all being placed in a position of equally concurring in its formation—and

all being alike interested in adopting the course best calculated to secure and maintain for the Grand Lodge a position of dignity and usefulness,—

“ ‘*Resolved*, That various letters with suggestions for effecting union, referred to in the proceedings of this committee, having already been circulated amongst all the Lodges of the Province, the committee consider it proper that the Lodges should be placed in possession of the addresses from R. W. Brother A. G. Mackey and M. W. Brother Philip C. Tucker, and any other information that will enable them to arrive at a correct conclusion as to the proper means of accomplishing the union amongst all the Craft in the Province, as proposed by the foregoing resolution of the committee, and that the Grand Secretary be therefore directed to have the proceedings of the committee printed and circulated amongst the Craft.

“ ‘A true copy.

“ ‘THOS. B. HARRIS, *Grand Secretary*.’

“The foregoing minutes having been communicated to R. W. Brother T. G. Ridout, in reply to his letter to the M. W. Grand Master, they were taken into consideration by the members of the Ancient Grand Lodge, and being deemed satisfactory, as the preliminary conditions of the desired union, the Ancient Grand Lodge appointed R. W. Brother T. D. Harington, a delegate to negotiate with the Grand Lodge of Canada, and agree on the more perfect terms of the union. The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada summoned another meeting of its Grand Officers, to consider the propriety of appointing a delegate to meet the delegate of the Ancient Grand Lodge, and complete with him the final arrangements for the union of the two bodies, and of the whole Craft of Canada, under one Grand Lodge.

“The committee of Grand Officers accordingly met at Hamilton, on Friday the 11th day of June, 1858,—

“ ‘PRESENT: R. W. Brother W. C. STEPHENS, Presiding. R. W. Brothers Charles Magill, Richard Bull, John Osborne, Thos. B. Harris, Capt. Thompson Wilson, William Bellhouse, V. W. Brothers John R. Holden, Henry Grist, F. J. Rastrick, W. H. Pardey, Thomas Rawlings, and W. Brother Norman Booth.

“ ‘R. W. Brother W. C. Stephens having reported to the committee that the Ancient Grand Lodge had adopted a resolution under seal of the Grand Lodge, appointing R. W. Brother T. D. Harington to negotiate with this Grand Lodge, and agree on more perfect terms of union,

“ ‘It was moved by R. W. Brother Capt. T. Wilson, seconded by W. Brother W. H. Pardey,—

“ ‘That the committee having heard communications at the hands of R. W. Brother Stephens, with his explanations of an interview he had with certain brethren in Toronto—

“*Resolved*, That R. W. Brother Stephens be requested, on behalf of Canada, to see R. W. Brother Harington, and arrange such a formula as he may find expedient to carry out the desired object, and to inform the members of this committee of his action at his convenience.

(Signed)

“THOS. B. HARRIS, *Grand Secretary*.

“‘Under authority of the foregoing resolution, and a similar authority from the Ancient Grand Lodge, Brothers Harington and Stephens discussed the best means of effecting the great object in view, and after due consultation and consideration, agreed on the following as fit and proper terms of Union between the two bodies, and which are submitted and recommended to the adoption of Grand Lodge :

“‘**PROPOSED PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS FOR FINALLY SETTLING THE UNION OF THE CRAFT IN CANADA.**

“‘WHEREAS, The past condition and future welfare of Freemasonry in Canada rendered it absolutely necessary to organize and establish a sovereign Grand Lodge, for the reasons and on the basis set forth in various documents from time to time circulated, the correctness of which has not been refuted, although there has existed diversity of opinion as to whether the proper time had arrived for severing the connection with the mother Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland, without further efforts being first made to obtain such necessary concessions as would tend to ameliorate the condition of the Canadian Craft ; and which diversity of opinion has been suffered to operate to the injury of the best interests of Freemasonry in the Province, and thereby to militate against the advancement of the entire Order, by creating, as it has done, antagonistic bodies, claiming separate and independent jurisdictions ; by causing divisions amongst the brethren bound together by strong and mutual ties ; and by interfering, here and elsewhere, with that unity which is essentially a first principle of the landmarks of the Ancient Institution :

“‘AND WHEREAS, The anxious and generally expressed desire for consummating a union of the Fraternity under one governing and supreme authority testifies, that whether the proper time had or had not previously arrived, all are now agreed that Canadian Freemasonry should possess its one Grand Lodge :

“‘AND WHEREAS, The maintenance of the dignity of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the future, must be an object of equal interest to the entire Canadian Fraternity,—it is

“‘*Resolved*, That an impartial review of all the eventful circumstances attending its organization—its priority—its subsequent important proceedings—and its recognition by a portion of the British Empire, and by a very large proportion of the Grand Lodges of the United States of America—demonstrates that the Grand Lodge of Can-

ada, organized on the 10th October, 1855, and known and recognized as aforesaid, by the style and title of the *Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada*, should be acknowledged by the entire Canadian Craft, and should be, as is hereby declared to be, the Grand Lodge of the Fraternity in and throughout Canada.

“ *Resolved also*, That the diversity of opinion heretofore mentioned which, in various ways, retarded the union of the Fraternity, having given rise—amongst other circumstances to be regretted—to the anomaly in Freemasonry, of the erection, in one and the same territory, of a second Grand Lodge, styled *The Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada*, and exercising jurisdiction over a portion of the Canadian Craft, it is necessary for the interests of the Institution—and in accordance with the previous resolution—that the said Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada should be dissolved; therefore the same is now dissolved, its officers (as Past Grand Officers), and its members and Lodges hereby uniting with, and becoming enrolled, according to their respective rank and seniority, on the registry of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in every respect as though they had occurred originally in the organization of that Lodge; to which they hereby pledge their willing and faithful obedience, feeling, as all do, that the future prosperity and paramount welfare of Freemasonry require unanimity and harmony.

“ *Resolved also*, That a committee, to consist of ———, be appointed for ascertaining and defining the respective rank and precedence of brethren and of Lodges, according to the original warrants or dispensations—the said committee to report to an especial communication of Grand Lodge, to be convened by the M. W. Grand Master, at six months from this date.

“ *Resolved also*, That warrants, under the seal of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, to bear date on this day of Union, be forthwith prepared for each and every Lodge enrolled on the Registry of the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada aforesaid, and that the names of seven members of each such Lodge be furnished, with as little delay as possible, to the Grand Secretary, for insertion in such respective warrants; the number of each such warrant to be affixed thereto, after receiving the report of the committee aforesaid. And

“ *Resolved also*, That all Provincial Grand and Private Lodges, not at present in alliance with THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA, be notified of these proceedings, and be invited to enroll themselves within six months, that they may be accorded their proper rank and precedence on the register of their said Grand Lodge, at the especial communication before mentioned.

“ W. C. STEPHENS

“ TORONTO, July, A. D. 1858, A. L. 5858.

“The foregoing report having been read, R. W. Brother W. C. Stephens informed Grand Lodge, that the presence of M. W. Brother Philip C. Tucker, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, and R. W. Brother Robert Morris, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, at this communication, had afforded an opportunity of submitting to their consideration the proposed preamble and resolutions, and that those eminent brethren concurred in the opinion, that the terms proposed might be accepted without impairing the constitutional position of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that they would be honorable, and could not fail to be beneficial to all parties concerned.

“R. W. Brother Stephens urged on Grand Lodge the desirableness of their embracing the present opportunity of accomplishing the union of all the Craft in the Province, and moved, seconded by R. W. Brother W. B. Simpson, that the preamble and resolutions for the union of all the Craft in Canada, now submitted, be approved, adopted and accepted by this Grand Lodge, as the basis upon which that union—so essential to the interests of Masonry in Canada—may be effected.

“A deputation, consisting of R. W. Brothers Harington, Thomas G. Ridout, S. B. Harman, and G. B. Harman and G. W. Whitehead, from the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada, were introduced, and announced the preamble and resolutions for union—which had been agreed on by R. W. Brothers Harington and Stephens—had been unanimously adopted by the Ancient Grand Lodge.

“The M. W. Grand Master informed the deputation that the said preamble and resolutions had likewise been unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge of Canada; and that they were now prepared and anxious to receive the members of the Ancient Grand Lodge into membership of this Grand Lodge.

“The deputation withdrew to communicate with the Ancient Grand Lodge—which was then in session—and to invite the immediate attendance of its officers and members.

“The M. W. Grand Lodge appointed R. W. Brothers Bernard, Stephens, and Simpson, in conjunction with the Grand Director of Ceremonies and the Grand Deacons, a deputation to receive and introduce the members of the Ancient Grand Lodge.

“The officers and members of the Ancient Grand Lodge came in a body to the portals of the Grand Lodge of Canada,—were duly announced, introduced by the deputation, and received with the usual Grand honors.

“R. W. Brother Harington read the Articles of Union agreed on by R. W. Brother Stephens and himself, and which had been approved and adopted separately by both Grand Lodges as the basis of union, and moved that they now be jointly ratified and confirmed.

“R. W. Brother Stephens seconded the motion—and the Articles were accordingly unanimously ratified and confirmed in the most en-

thusiastic manner by acclamation ; and the union of the two Grand Lodges was declared to be perfect and complete.

“The brethren were then addressed and congratulated on the happy consummation of the long desired union, by M. W. Brothers Wm. M. Wilson, Sir Allan N. McNab, and P. C. Tucker, and R. W. Brothers Rob Morris, T. G. Ridout, T. D. Harington, W. C. Stephens, and A. Bernard.’

“The committee appointed on the address of the M. W. Grand Master, made a report, from which we take the following extract :

“Your committee consider the reflection of M. W. Brother Wilson to the Oriental Chair, at the last annual meeting held in the city of Montreal to have been productive of much advantage and benefit to the Order, enabling him to accomplish the prominent desire of the brethren—“The Union of the Craft.”

“Your committee rejoice, that through his exertions and the instrumentality of M. W. Brothers Stephens and Harington, this desirable object has been unanimously and cordially effected, and that the united acclamations of the brethren have placed him, for the fourth time at the head of the Grand Lodge.

“Your committee are aware that the Grand Master has made many personal sacrifices for the advancement of the Craft in Canada, which your committee wish to see substantially and suitably acknowledged during the present Masonic year.

“Your committee see much cause for congratulation in the progress of Masonry in the Province ; the recognition of this Grand Lodge by a largely increased number of foreign Grand Lodges, and the able arguments of M. W. Brother Tucker, the Grand Master of Vermont, and M. W. Brother Thomas Brown, Past Grand Master of Florida ; R. W. Brother Morris of Kentucky and R. W. Brother Mackey, of South Carolina, sustaining the independence and position of this Grand Lodge.

“A deep debt of gratitude is due to those distinguished brethren and other brothers whose earnest and continued advocacy of the best interests of this Grand Lodge entitle them to the lasting regard of the Canadian Brotherhood.

“Your committee also perceive much cause for congratulation at the Masonic Union recently accomplished in the State of New York, whereby the principles for which the Canadian brethren have so long contended, namely—the undivided sovereignty of the Craft in a Province, State, or Territory—has been fully and satisfactorily sustained. The union of the two Grand Lodges of the State of New York was most opportune, and tended in a great measure to encourage those fraternal feelings which lately influenced the Canadian brethren to accomplish the union of the Craft in this Province.

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, and stated that the union so auspiciously completed having entirely

changed the circumstances under which many of the numerous subjects involved in their report were considered, and the sitting of this communication of Grand Lodge not affording time for its revision, requested leave to withdraw it and submit the following, briefly to acknowledge the receipt at the office of the Grand Secretary, during the past Masonic year, of copies of proceedings from the M. W. the Grand Lodges of Arkansas, Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, Wisconsin; also, from the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and to state, that early in January last, the Grand Secretary mailed to each Grand Lodge in the United States a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from its formation, and which, it is hoped, have all in due course reached their destination.

“ ‘Fifteen Lodges U. D. received charters.’

“ M. W. Brother Wm. Mercer Wilson was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

“ This Grand Lodge held its annual communication in the city of New Haven, 12th May, 1858. Fifty-six Lodges were represented, and full returns published, giving the names of officers and members. Whole number of members reported, 4,784—initiations, 418—rejections, 26—expulsions, 13—suspensions, 10—deaths, 62. Amount of Grand Lodge dues received, \$418. Rather too small an income to meet the necessary expenditures of the Grand Lodge, to say nothing of a fund for charitable donations. The Grand Master, in his annual address, adverts to this subject and says: ‘My attention has been called to the condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge. For some time we have been gradually reducing the funds in the Treasurer’s hands, or to speak more plainly, our expenses have exceeded our income. In addition to the ordinary current expenses, we have made charitable donations to individuals and communities, to quite a large amount. Our principal, I might say, our only source of revenue is from the initiation of members of the subordinate Lodges. It will be necessary to provide for an increase in our revenue, or to cease making those special appropriations. I would further suggest the expediency of enacting that hereafter the Grand Secretary be *ex-officio* chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, with a fixed compensation in addition to his present salary, for the duties of his office. This method, I think, would render certain, that in any event we should have a report from the committee. It might be brief and yet contain a condensed summary of all that is necessary to be published.’

“ A call was made for a report on Foreign Correspondence, when a

verbal apology was made, that the chairman of the committee, in consequence of some affliction in his family, was unable to discharge that duty. Whereupon it was ordered, that the Grand Secretary make such abstract as he may deem proper, and print the same as an appendix to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, *provided* the cost of the printing shall not exceed *one hundred and fifty dollars*: and in the appendix we find the R. W. Grand Secretary's Report of 108 pages, consisting mainly of copious extracts from thirty-odd Grand Lodge reports and other matter; but we regret that we do not see the name of Florida among them.

CALIFORNIA.

"The proceedings of our Pacific sister come to us, as usual, in their full and interesting character. The ninth Grand annual communication was held in the city of Sacramento, on Friday, 11th May, 1858. An ample attendance of Grand Officers and representatives from 79 chartered Lodges were present. The Grand Lodge was opened in *AMPLE FORM*. The Grand Master, M. W. N. Greene Curtis, in his address, which is characterized by much ability, says: 'You will be called upon at this communication to determine upon a change in the organic law of Masonry in this State. You cannot exercise too much care and wisdom in the enactment or alteration of the laws which are so vitally to affect the Fraternity. Too much legislation is ever attended with a danger of encroaching upon the ancient landmarks of the Order, or infringing upon some of those rights which are the inalienable inheritance of each member, however humble.' We most heartily concur in these sentiments with the M. W. Grand Master of California. Too much legislation is the vice of the present day—as well in *Masonic* as in *civil* government. The same thirst for change and innovation which has prompted tiros and demagogues to legislate upon *constitutional law*, and write expositions of the common law, has prompted the uninformed and unscrupulous Masons to legislate upon the landmarks of Masonry. Too much is written and published on the subject of Masonry.

"The Grand Master says:

"The Masonic Board of Relief, established something more than two years ago by the several Lodges of the city of San Francisco, under a thorough organization, to administer to the distresses of those who are worthy and needy, deserves our highest commendation for its active and efficient benevolence. The want of time, the cares of business, and the whirl of pleasure, often closes the hand which else would have been freely and cheerfully opened to minister to the wants of the destitute and unfortunate. In this Board of Relief, our brethren of San Francisco have avoided all these difficulties, as it is their business as well as pleasure to give ear to all that apply, and as they have full power to contribute to their needs and supply all their wants. The

great good which our San Francisco brethren have thus already done, is but the guarantee for the boundless good for which the future will bless them.

“Beyond the difficulties hereinbefore mentioned, our foreign intercourse, as will appear by the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, gives a flattering exhibit of the harmony and prosperity of the Fraternity throughout the world. There has been no time in the history of Masonry when so great an influence has been felt, or so large an amount of usefulness exhibited, as at the present time. The shackles with which prejudice and ignorance have hitherto bound it, unnerving, in a manner, its arm for extended good, and circumscribing its theatre of action, seems to have fallen at its feet ; and with strength and vigor it is pressing forward in its path of duty to humanity, widening as human intelligence widens—spreading hand in hand with those sciences which confer blessings upon mankind—and preparing the heart and mind for a more noble appreciation of the sublimity of that justice and benevolence which it is confidently hoped will one day bind together the whole human family with indissoluble ties of friendship and affection.

“Our Order, grand in its numbers and influence, will play a noble part in this great scheme of universal brotherhood ; interpreting all languages, accommodating all customs, acclimating all zones, conciliating all sects, whether living under despotic or republican rule, and everywhere performing its mission of charity and love. From every part of the civilized world has been extended the hand of brotherhood, and palm has pressed palm, sealing the mutual promise of harmonious action.

“Our own Commonwealth, by the force of circumstances, seems to have been selected as the pioneer in this holy work. Far away from the civilized world, unbiassed by the troubles or prejudices that control or vex it—uninfluenced by those daily occurrences which brighten or cloud its sky,—rich in that which invites the hardy, energetic, and adventurous from the whole earth, but for a temporary residence among us—among the thousands that have been scattered like grains of gold, scarce thinking that there was another and a nobler mission than gathering the shining ore—they have found their way, through the portals of our temple, and kneeling side by side with us at our altars, have listened to their and our tradition in another tongue than that which first taught them the light ; have seen our charities and felt the benefit of our benevolence ; have watched our harmony ; and blessed God that we were here to welcome and befriend them in their hour of trial and of need. They have left us to seek again their own lands, bearing with them our God-speed on the ear, and graven on their hearts our good offices. The asperities that parted them from us, born of national prejudices, have been dissolved by our friendships ; and in their far homes, from the fullness of their hearts, they will teach others

to love and revere us and the Order of which we are but humble members. Who can guess or tell the extent of that vast influence exerted by those silent deeds of fellowship and kindness which have been performed by us, and received by them; or measure the wealth of that kindly feeling awakened in every land by grateful and loving hearts? May it not be like the air which a spoken word has set in motion, undulating until the whole earth hath felt its passing breath?

"We take the following extract from the report of the Board of Relief :

"The usual tabular statement accompanies this report, showing in detail, in accordance with the sixth Article of the Compact, the names of all to whom relief has been afforded, the dates when given, the residence of the recipients, the Lodges of which they (or their husbands and fathers) last were members, the amounts donated, and the reasons for the donation. From this it will be seen that the disbursements during the twelve months past have been as follows :

For the relief of sick, needy, and destitute brethren,.....	\$855 25
For the relief of the wives, widows, and children of brethren,.....	1,249 00
For passages paid in various directions for destitute brethren, their wives, widows, and orphans,.....	515 00
For funeral expenses of deceased brethren,.....	147 00

Making the whole amount expended for charity,.....	\$2,766 25
To which is to be added for blanks, stationery, &c.,.....	34 00

Being a total expenditure of,..... \$2,800 25

The foregoing sum of \$2,766 25 has been distributed as follows :

To 2 cases from Australia,.....	\$50 00	Amount brought forward,.....	\$1,901 25
To 36 " " California,.....	849 25	To 3 cases from Maine,.....	138 00
To 1 " " Delaware,.....	5 00	To 6 " " Maryland,.....	125 00
To 2 " " England,.....	100 00	To 2 " " Massachusetts,....	50 00
To 16 " " France,.....	467 00	To 1 " " Missouri,.....	10 00
To 1 " " Illinois,.....	20 00	To 10 " " New York,.....	362 00
To 1 " " Ireland,.....	25 00	To 1 " " Ohio,.....	20 00
To 14 " " Louisiana,.....	385 00	To 1 " " Pennsylvania,.....	15 00
		To 7 " " S. Carolina,.....	145 00

Amount carried forward,.... \$1,901 25

112 applications for relief,..... \$2,766 25

RECAPITULATION.

Amount in the treasury January 1, 1857,.....	\$892 75
Received from the Lodges during the year,.....	1,906 30
Received from donations during the year,.....	2,051 62
	\$4,850 67
Amount expended for charity during the year,.....	\$2,766 25
Amount expended for stationery,.....	34 00
	2,800 25
Leaving a balance in the treasury on the 31st day of Dec., 1857, of,.....	\$2,050 42

"It will be seen by the above that the necessities of the Craft from Florida sojourning in California did not require any of them to apply

to this noble Association for relief, as was also the case by the report of the Relief Lodge of New Orleans.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence have received and reviewed the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges, being all the Grand Lodges in the United States, except Massachusetts and Rhode Island. This we regard as an occurrence well worthy of remark, considering the many thousand miles, by land and water, these publications had to be transported, and speaks loudly in the praises, not only for the promptness and efficiency of the Grand Secretaries who grace our Grand Lodges, but of the safety and expedition of the mail arrangements in that department of the Federal Government.

"We were favorably impressed with the first report we received from the committee of California. We saw in its chairman, Brother A. G. Abell, a strong and lucid mind, combined with a true Masonic spirit. We felt, on reading his first report, that if we were to meet him, we could grasp his hand and greet him as a true brother and fellow. But he has certainly improved, and we regard it as no small compliment to say that this report before us is the best we have seen from his pen. With labor and investigation he combines a sound and discriminating judgment. We have glanced over his 'reflex of the transactions' of thirty-three Grand Lodges, and although we might not agree with him in all the questions presented, we do not hesitate to say, that in the general we do agree; and if he has erred in any important question of Masonic law, we have no doubt he will not remain long in error. We would judge he is not now beyond the meridian of life, and with his investigating powers and energetic mind in the pursuit of truth, he cannot long remain in error, of which we have an instance in this report of his ingenuous manliness in the acknowledgment of an error when convinced of it. We regard this report, taking every part of it into consideration, as among the best Grand Lodge reports that have come under our review, and it shows the importance of having an efficient Grand Secretary, who is *ex-officio* chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence. The committee notice in favorable terms the committee report of Florida, and we assure our intelligent and candid brother, that we had no design to give him a reprimand for his apology for the practice of our brethren in Indiana. They recognize the Grand Lodge of Canada. In their library they have 160 volumes of Grand Lodge reports neatly bound. The Florida proceedings from 1850 to 1857, inclusive, in one volume—full returns reported, with full tables and an index—a *model report*.

DELAWARE.

"At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the city of Wilmington, 28th June, 1858, a constitutional number of members and representatives from subordinate Lodges being present, the Grand

Lodge was opened in form by the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Edwin G. Horner. It appeared that 11 Lodges were represented by the Master, Wardens or their proxies, but the facts are not very clearly set forth by the R. W. Grand Secretary.

"M. W. John R. McFee was elected Grand Master. There appears no annual address from the Grand Master or report on Foreign Correspondence. Returns are published from ten Lodges, giving the names of officers and members, but no tables of numbers or statistics, but a long list of all the Grand Officers from the 7th June, 1856, to 27th June 1858. There are some special communications reported, but we confess that the whole report is without information and not in accordance with Masonic arrangement.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

"We have the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from the 5th May to 27th December, 1857. Their annual communication was on the 3d November. Ten Lodges appear to have been represented. The M. W. Grand Master, in his annual address, alludes, in feeling terms, to the death of Past Grand Master C. S. Fraily and R. W. Grand Senior Deacon S. F. Rand. We have received no report of the proceedings for 1858. The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a report composed of extracts from the proceedings of 29 Grand Lodges, with stereotype comments, which are barren of interest or originality.

"In our report of 1857 we took occasion to notice the immense amount of matter which had accumulated in the annual reports of Grand Lodges, and which was necessarily increasing in bulk every year,—and to illustrate our idea the more plainly, we used the homely allusion to the 'house that Jack built;' but it was introduced in no invidious sense. The committee of Ohio, in noticing this remark, say, 'There is truth in what our brother says of the labor in overhauling the rubbish to find the valuables; but, as he has, before times, labored among the rubbish to bring to light the hidden jewels of the Craft, he might have chosen language, it seem to us, *less captious and more Masonic* than he employs.' But the witty committee of the District, in their notice of our report, say, 'It is *very lengthy*, and to use their own expression, is too much like the "house that Jack built," for us to venture to review, *least we break down in the middle or tire your patience.*' Now the wit will be discernible in the fact, that they found *materials* enough in the other twenty-eight reports for their '*Jack's House*' which required only the use of the scissors, without the risk of a *break down* in venturing to review our *lengthy* report; and without the fear of a *break down in the middle* before their eyes, we find them traveling a *wilderness of waters* to glean information for the benefit of the Craft in the *wilds of America*, which they present in this wise:

"The Journal of the United Grand Lodge of England, from the 3d

of September, 1856, to 29th of April, 1857, both inclusive, have been received.

"On perusing these proceedings, we observe, on the 3d of December, 1856, complaint was made against certain Lodges in Sydney, New South Wales, for refusing to admit as visitors, brethren of certain other Lodges there, under the Irish Constitution, when, upon the showing of the Worshipful Brother Past Deputy Grand Master for New South Wales, then present, that the reason for such refusal was based upon personal objections to the parties, the Grand Lodge of England adopted the following resolution, in which your committee fully concur :

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is within the power of the Master, Wardens, and brethren of every private Lodge to refuse admission to any visitor of known bad character.'

"Now, this is surely important information, for which the Fraternity in the United States should be thankful, *that they have the power to refuse admission into their Lodges to any visitor of known bad character* ; and not the least valuable part of the information is, that in this opinion the committee of District of Columbia 'fully concur.'

"Full returns from eleven Lodges are published, giving the names of officers and members ; but no additions, aggregates, or tables of statistics are furnished.

GEORGIA.

"The annual communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the city of Macou, on the 26th day of October, 1858. Two hundred and twenty-three chartered Lodges were represented, and seven U. D. The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master, in his annual address, which is devoted to various subjects, argues the question of the rights of subordinate Lodges. The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a well written report, which evinces much labor and research. In noticing the Florida report, the committee say :

"Bro. B. says that "the opening of a Master's Lodge in the absence of the Master and Wardens, is an outrage upon all Masonic authority." If this be true, then does the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Georgia sanction such outrage. Its language is "No Lodge shall be opened for the transaction of any business *in the absence of the Master and Wardens*, unless there be a *Past Master to preside*." We think our brother made too wide a sweep with his sabre. It is admitted that the old regulations require that "before a Past Master can preside in the absence of the Master, that one of the Wardens must have once congregated the Lodge." But does our brother forget that each Grand Lodge has the *inherent* power to *alter* this regulation, provided no "ancient landmark" be thereby violated? Our brother is too old and too bright a Mason to contend that the abrogation of this "regula-

tion" violates a landmark. Past Masters are unknown to *ancient craft Masonry*.'

"We certainly do not forget that all Grand Lodges possess the inherent right to regulate their own local concerns: provided no 'ancient landmark,' or any of the 'General Regulations' of Masonry 'be thereby violated.' But we do contend that, if Georgia has a provision in her Constitution which authorizes a Past Master to *open and work* a Lodge in the absence of the Master and Wardens, it does violate the 'Ancient Charges and Regulations' of York Masonry; and we further contend, that the exclusion of the Wardens from the right of representing their Lodges is also an innovation upon the same authority.

"We hold the following propositions as 'General Regulations' that cannot be changed or altered:

"1st. That no Lodge can be legally organized without a charter or warrant of constitution, granted to a Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden, authorizing them to constitute a Lodge to work.

"2d. That the Masters and Wardens must be annually elected and duly installed in office before they can open a Lodge for work.

"3d. That no Lodge can be legally opened without a Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden, in their proper places.

"4th. That in the absence of the Master, the duties of his office devolve upon the Senior Warden, and in his absence, upon the Junior Warden.

"5th. That in the absence of the Master and Wardens, no Lodge can be legally opened for work.

"6th. That no Lodge can be legally opened for work without the presence of the charter in view, or to be seen by any brother who may choose to call for it.

"7th. That the Master and Wardens, to whom the warrant is granted, are the only proper persons in whose possession it can be kept, and consequently, a Past Master cannot legally congregate a Lodge in the absence of the Masters and Wardens, which implies also the absence of the warrant: and for the further reason, that when the newly elected Master is duly installed, that the old Master returns to his former position in the Lodge, with no other authority than that which is conceded to him from courtesy on account of experience; and if again elected the Master, he could not preside until *duly installed*.

"8th. That the particular or subordinate Lodges are the constituents of the Grand Lodge, and no Grand Lodge can be constituted or organized without the presence of at least three Lodges, by their legal representatives.

"9th. That the Master and Wardens, or their regular constituted proxies, are the legal representatives of their respective Lodges in the Grand Lodge, which is their constituent body; and that the Wardens

are in all cases united in their representative character with their respective Masters, and cannot legally be separated from them, and have equal *representative* powers in all cases with the Master.

"10th. That Grand Lodges possess *inherent* powers to legislate in regard to their *local* regulations, provided they do not violate any of the *general regulations* or 'landmarks' of Masonry.

"These propositions, we respectfully think, are supported by Masonic authorities, which no well-informed Mason will question.

"All Masters and Grand Masters are required in their installation obligations to admit that *it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry*. This is the great 'landmark' which ever has and ever will preserve Masonry pure and unchanged. If it were not for this regulation, Masonry would rank no higher than the modern associations of the day. Men, through ignorance and a desire for change and *improvement*, may overstep the landmarks of the Order, but they cannot remove or abolish them. Grand Lodges may adopt their own local laws and regulations to suit their own purposes and policy, but all the Grand Lodges in the world combined cannot make innovations in the general established laws of Masonry.

"We respectfully think, notwithstanding our high estimation of the Masonic knowledge and experience of our brethren of the Georgia committee, that their tone and manner in defending their position, are more *ex cathedra* than argumentative. We give a specimen: 'The restriction of the representation of subordinate Lodges to the Worshipful Master or the Past Master, is seriously objected to; and the exclusion of the Wardens of the Lodges is condemned as a palpable violation of Masonic law. A decent respect for the opinion of others would authorize a resort to argument and proof in cases of doubtful right, but the action of the Grand Lodge of Georgia in the premises is of undoubted authority in the opinion of all who are sufficiently acquainted with the prerogatives and powers pertaining to the Grand Lodges, and the objections and censure we have noticed will be admitted to be the result of a want of information, and wholly unfounded when tested by the history of the origin and organization of representative Grand Lodges, and we refer to it only for the purpose of showing to our objecting brethren that study and investigation are sometimes more profitable than carping and caviling. *Prior to the year 1717, the general assemblies of Masons consisted of as many of the Fraternity at large as being within convenient distance could attend, from the youngest Entered Apprentice to the oldest Master Mason. At that date the Grand Lodge of England was organized by the only four Lodges then in existence in the south of that Kingdom, and invested with power and authority to make new regulations, or to alter those then existing for the real benefit of the Fraternity, PROVIDED ALWAYS that the old landmarks be carefully pre-*

served.' We think we have quoted enough from this learned report to show how well our brethren of Georgia have read digested, and understood the history of Masonry.

"The 30th article of the 'General Regulations,' compiled by George Payne, when he was Grand Master, and approved by the Grand Lodge, on St. John Baptist's Day, 1721, declares, 'Every Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make new regulations, or to alter these, for the real BENEFIT OF THIS ANCIENT FRATERNITY.' What regulations? Not all of them; for then the *proviso* would have been entirely unnecessary. But *these* regulations, which related only to the annual communication and feasts, when the Grand Master and Grand Wardens were chosen for the ensuing year, on St. John Baptist's Day, but which might be changed to St. John Evangelist's Day, or at some other place, by a NEW REGULATION; and all other regulations in regard to the appointment of the annual feast, the mode of raising the funds, and the disbursing of them; the mode of admitting visitors to the dinner,—to which all Masons were indiscriminately admitted, down to the 'youngest Entered Apprentice,' and the control of behavior whilst at dinner, and during the whole meeting. And in regard to these regulations, the Master and Wardens of the particular Lodges had principal control; for without their consent, nothing could be done. And it should be remembered, that these regulations were approved and signed by the Master and Wardens of twenty particular Lodges, and without their assent they could not have been approved. Nor could any of these regulations in regard to Grand Lodge 'power and authority' be enforced without the consent of the Master and Wardens of particular Lodges. By Art. 23d, it is declared, 'If it be thought expedient, and the Grand Master, *with the majority of the Masters and Wardens*, agree to hold a Grand Feast, according to the ancient laudable custom of Masons, then the Grand Wardens shall have the care,' &c. And again, 'If the Grand Master pleases, he may in due time summon *all the Masters and Wardens of Lodges* to consult with them about the Grand Feast,' &c. Art. 30: 'Then the Masters and Wardens, and all the brethren, may converse promiscuously, or as they please to sort together, until the dinner is coming in, when every brother takes his seat at table.' And Art. 31: 'Some time after dinner the Grand Lodge is formed, *not in retirement*, but in the presence of all the brethren, *who are yet not members of it*, and must not therefore speak until they are desired and allowed.' All these regulations relate to the Grand annual feast, at which all regular Masons and Wardens, or their regularly appointed proxies, are the only legal representatives of their respective Lodges, and with the Grand Master, alone have a right to ballot for Grand Officers; and this right they acquire, not from any of these regulations, but from the immutable principles of Ancient Freemasonry. 'The Masonic Lodge and the Masonic institution are one and indivisible.'

“ ‘The head of the Lodge is the Master, duly elected by the Craft, and the medium of communication between the head and body of the Lodge is the Wardens, duly elected by the Craft,’ and they cannot be separated from the Master in their right to represent their Lodge any more than they could be in the discharge of any of their other rightful duties. There never could be a Lodge without a Master and Wardens, or a Grand Lodge without subordinate or particular Lodges, of which they are its constituents by the Master and Wardens, who are their only legal representatives ; and the idea that Masons were a rambling and disorganized body of men until the formation of the Grand Lodge of England by the four Lodges of London, in 1717, is absurd and contradicted by all Masonic history from the earliest ages. Solomon was a Grand Master and had his Grand Wardens, and doubtless all the Masons employed in work about the temple were regularly organized into Lodges and duly registered, and whether by written or traditional authority is not material : and if any of those Masons of ancient days could be brought back to life, and could visit us and could not recognize us as Masons and enter our Lodges, it would be conclusive evidence that we are not Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. It is very certain that they kept their records and might have had written warrants, for we are informed that Solomon did cause a place to be provided for their safe-keeping and preservation from *floods and conflagrations*. We know in all ages, from wars, conquests and persecutions, Masons have been broken up in their associations, and for long periods of time have been disorganized, but we must suppose they had their private meetings, whether on high hills or in low valleys, or in dens or caves of the earth, and when a sufficient number could get together, that they opened Lodges by their esoteric authority, and made Masons. Any other idea would lead to the conclusion that it could be possible for Masonry to become extinct after a generation or more of persecution. From the death of Solomon, owing to the wars and disorders which ensued, Masonry was subjected to many vicissitudes, and gradually sunk into decay until after the destruction of the second temple in the reign of Vespasian. When but few Lodges could meet in sufficient numbers to constitute their legality, they sent a deputation to St. John the Evangelist, who was at that time Bishop of Ephesus and upwards of ninety years old, soliciting him to take the office of Grand Master. This was a deputation from regularly organized Lodges, and not from an unorganized assemblage of Masons, and his reply was conclusive. He said : ‘Having been in the early part of his life initiated into Masonry,’ which must have been in a regular Lodge, ‘he would accept the office.’ Masonry flourished in Rome under the Cæsars, and particularly in the reign of Augustus, who was Grand Master, when Lodges were numerous, some in almost every garrison. St. Alban instituted the first Grand Lodge in Britain about 289. About 930, ‘Prince Edwin summoned all the Masons in the realm to meet him

at York, and composed a Grand Lodge, of which he was Grand Master, and having brought with them all the writings and records extant, some in Greek, some in Latin, some in French and other languages, from the contents thereof, that assembly did frame a Constitution and CHARGES for an English Grand Lodge, and made a law to preserve and observe the same in all time coming.' Now these facts from ancient Masonic history, and many others which could not possibly be referred to in a report like this, go to prove most conclusively that Lodges and Grand Lodges were regularly organized under Constitutions, Charges, and Regulations many centuries before the organization of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717, and it is true that she has not *altered* the General Regulations approved in 1721, but she has made innovations upon the ancient landmarks. She *altered* the word 'Freeborn' to 'Freeman.' We hardly think our brethren of Georgia will regard this innovation as authority for them.

"These authorities equally apply to the opinion of the M. W. Grand Master of Georgia, advanced in his annual address, published in the proceedings which we are now examining, in regard to the relative powers of Grand and subordinate Lodges. Upon the question of the right of a subordinate Lodge to try their own members, he says :

"The actual relation of the Grand Lodge of Georgia to its subordinates does not seem to be realized by the Lodges of modern date, or by Freemasons of recent admission to the privileges of the Order. A perusal of the minutes from 1786 to the present day, for nearly three-quarters of a century, now accessible to the Fraternity, would tend to relieve from misapprehension on that score, and a reference to the history of our organization, at a still earlier period, would sufficiently settle all doubt upon the question.

"The correctness of the idea that this section *deprives* the subordinate Lodges of any right which legitimately belongs to them, must depend upon the source from whence the Lodge derives its rights. If the Lodge is itself an original organization, and by its own action concurrently with others of a like character, established the Grand Lodge and defined its powers, reserving all others to itself and its colleagues, then indeed if the Grand Lodge assumes to clothe itself with a power originally belonging to the subordinates, it may fairly be deemed guilty of usurpation. But such is not the relation of the Grand Lodge to the subordinate Lodges of the State. They did not establish the Grand Lodge ; on the contrary the Grand Lodge established them. The subordinate Lodges did not clothe the Grand Lodge with the power which it exercises, but every subordinate Lodge in the State of Georgia derives its existence from, and exercises the powers it possesses under the Grand Lodge. Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, in 1786, surrendered the charter it then possessed, which was coetaneous with the establishment of the Grand Lodge, and received its present charter in lieu thereof ; and certainly if Solomon's Lodge does not

complain of an infringement of its legitimate rights, it may well be doubted if those who came to exercise the rights of a Lodge by permission of this body, some three score and ten years later, have any well founded cause of complaint.

“‘But what rights are those which legitimately belong to a subordinate Lodge? What powers have they a right to exercise? Such only as are specified in the warrant under which they act. It is manifest that the Grand Lodge when it invested the Freemasons of its jurisdiction with Lodge powers, had a right not only to express the conditions, but the extent of the grant. Much of the sophistry expended on the question is due to a pernicious habit of viewing the Lodges as sovereign, and the Grand Lodge as created by their action. This is a fallacy which investigation and examination can only remove; and in proportion as the history of the Order is ascertained and understood, vagaries like these will lose in interest and in importance.’

“Now, we confess these are novel opinions, and the argument is equally novel. The learned Grand Master says, the Lodges in Georgia ‘*did not establish the Grand Lodge!*’ On the contrary, *the Grand Lodge established them!*” But further: ‘The subordinate Lodges did not clothe the Grand Lodge with the powers which it exercises; but every subordinate Lodge in the State of Georgia derives its existence from and exercises the powers it possesses under the Grand Lodge.’ We deferentially think the M. W. Grand Master, in his wisdom, should have informed the Fraternity of Georgia from what source their Grand Lodge derived its existence, and who clothed it with the powers which it exercises. As he presents it, it is an omnipotent body, *SELF-created* and *SELF-sustaining*, with powers to make and dictate Masonry at its will. But he does give a reason why the *Grand Lodge of Georgia* is independent of its subordinates. The only Lodge which was ‘*coetaneous*’ with the establishment of the Grand Lodge surrendered its charter in 1786, and received its present charter—therefore, the existence of the Grand Lodge of Georgia being prior to the dates of the charters of its subordinates, is independent of them and can dictate to them Masonic law. Now, this course of reasoning suggests some very simple questions. Could a Lodge hold a charter ‘*coetaneous*’ with the existence of the Grand Lodge to which it is *subordinate*? Could a Grand Lodge grant a charter before it had any existence itself? Do not all Grand Lodges, after their organization, call in the charters of the Lodges that *created* them and issue new charters? When the Lodges in Georgia, working under the *Provincial Grand Lodge* instituted by the Grand Lodge of England, organized the Independent Grand Lodge of Georgia in 1776, did they not surrender their warrants and receive new warrants or charters from the Grand Lodge of Georgia?

“If it would not be deemed presumptuous in a committee of a

Grand Lodge not yet thirty years old to ask of the M. W. Grand Master of a Grand Lodge claiming a century and a quarter of existence, we would respectfully ask him, what is a Grand Lodge? We have always held the opinion that a Grand Lodge is the General Assembly or Grand communication of all the Lodges of Masons in a jurisdiction, by their lawful representatives, the Master and Wardens of the respective Lodges, or their legally appointed proxies, to deliberate on and legislate for the benefit of the Craft in their jurisdiction, who constitute the Grand Lodge and without whose presence there could be no Grand Lodge; that the Grand Lodge is clothed with legislative powers only; that the subordinate Lodges respectively have the right, and they only, to try and expel their members for disorderly and unmasonic conduct, but they must report their proceedings to the Grand Lodge, to which the members expelled have a right of appeal, because the Grand Lodge, being composed of Lodges who are equals and possessing the same rights, can inquire into the acts of any of their body; that the Grand Lodge cannot compel a particular Lodge to keep among its members an obnoxious and disorderly member, who would disturb its harmony, which is implied by the right of trial claimed by the Grand Lodge, nor can the Grand Lodge force back on the subordinate Lodge an obnoxious brother. The Grand Lodge is supreme or sovereign in its proper sphere, because it is composed of the subordinate Lodges and is their constituted Masonic head; but the subordinate Lodges possess rights and powers over which the Grand Lodge has no control or authority.

"We hold that there can be no GRAND LODGE without *particular* Lodges to constitute it; for the term would be without a meaning or definite idea. All *general* or *grand* assemblages of Masons, in all ages of Masonic history, without regular constituted Lodges of Masons to constitute them, were but particular Lodges of Masons, with no greater powers.

INDIANA.

"The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Indianapolis, 24th May, 1858. Two hundred and fifteen Lodges were represented, and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The Grand Master says in his address: 'The subordinate Lodges are steadily advancing to that high standard of morals which they should ever occupy.' The report on Foreign Correspondence notices the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges quite briefly, but we do not see the name of Florida among the number. The report concludes with these remarks: 'And now, having thus hastily reviewed the proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges—too hastily, we are aware, to do anything like justice to their merits, for we feared the impatience of the Grand Lodge, and had we made this report shorter, we should have failed in the courtesy due those in correspondence with us—we

have the evidence of the peace, happiness, and universal prosperity of Masonry throughout the continent. Difficulties of long standing are being settled ; respect, confidence and admiration for our venerable institution is being inspired and the votaries at her shrine embrace the good, the wise, the great and the noble of every sect and party.' Appended to the proceedings is a tabular statement of 236 Lodges and five U. D., showing an aggregate of 1,291 initiations, 1,241 passings, 1,183 raisings, 322 admissions, 644 withdrawals, 235 rejections, 305 suspensions, 60 expulsions, 45 reinstated, 81 deaths. Total number of members 8,594. But no lists published of the returns of Lodges. M. W. Brother Solomon D. Bayliss was reelected Grand Master ; R. W. Brother Francis King, Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

" The Grand Lodge of Iowa held its annual communication at Des-moines, 1st June, 1858. There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master, Brother JOHN F. SANFORD, read his annual address, which is, as usual from him, a chaste, lucid, and fraternal production, from the introductory portion of which we make the following extract. He says :

" ' The Grand Lodge of Iowa, combining the sympathies, moral and intellectual, of six thousand free and enlightened citizens of a splendid commonwealth, is no idle spectator of the great movements now transpiring on the theatre of the world, which have for their object the social well-being of so many different and powerful nations. Acting in a sphere large enough to include the entire race of man within its beneficent influence, it will continue to regard with deferential feelings the peaceful march among the kingdoms and inhabitants of the civilized world of those principles of human happiness and improvement, in the support of which they claim a part. Rising, like the fabled bird of Arabia, from the chaos—I may almost say from the ashes—of the middle ages, Freemasonry has allied itself with every form and manifestation of human improvement, and penetrating, conjointly with the Christian faith, the cimmerian gloom that covered like a pall the nations of those ages, it ushered in and now shines resplendent over the era of universal knowledge and increasing amelioration. The minister of God, who proclaims peace and salvation to the obedient of the human family ; the votaries of the learned professions, whose labors associate them so intimately with the interests and happiness of society ; the statesmen, who direct the legislation of the world and mould the destinies of nations ; and the adventurous and skillful children of genius and toil, who whiten the seas and cover the land with monuments of commerce and civilization ; all bow before our altars and yield homage to our principles, for the refining influence our institution bestows upon the nobler attributes of the human mind.

“In this state of things, it is an elevated and pure emotion which prompts us to acknowledge the mercy and goodness of God, in using and blessing us as instruments in disseminating the principles of benevolence and human improvement. Gratitude to Him should constitute the leading thought in our proemial greetings, since from the great source of light and love can only come the intelligence as well as the fraternal promptings which give to our Order its glory and perpetuity. In this prelusory duty we but place before the world, in a more elaborate form, an essential prerequisite to the worship of our inner temples, which demands an acknowledgement of the being of God and faith and reliance on His merciful disposition.’

“There is quite a long, well-written, and well-considered report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges, with a table showing the number of pages contained in each, and an aggregate of 5,062 pages. As much has been written on ‘the duties of a committee on Foreign Correspondence,’ we will take an extract from the report of the committee which we approve. They say :

“They consider the duty of a committee on Foreign Correspondence to be of a far higher nature than merely to chronicle the doings of the Order. It is by its position called on to challenge every new and strange idea, and not to suffer it to pass, until by due trial and strict examination it may have determined its character and its claims to be recognized as correct and worthy to be received. In no other way can heresy, false doctrine, and innovation be so surely shut out of our Order, as by a faithful and careful performance of duty by committees on Foreign Correspondence ; and that brother and that Grand Lodge that finds fault with them for reviewing the actions of Grand Lodges and criticising the decisions of Grand Masters, must either have a high estimate of perfectability of human wisdom, or a low valuation of Masonic purity. Grand Masters and Grand Lodges are but human, and nothing will be more likely to make them careful how they decide, and what they enact, than the knowledge that their action is not confined to their own circle, but that they are surrounded with an amphitheatre of anxious and interested observers, who watch every movement and discuss every decision, and that, though they may be the ultimate tribunal in their own jurisdiction, they themselves will be tried by a higher—by the whole united brotherhood.

“It is therefore the duty of these committees to review calmly, yet strictly, the proceedings of Grand Lodges and their officers, and to discuss plainly, yet in fraternal spirit, whatever appears to them wrong or of doubtful expediency. They should recollect the important position they occupy and let it warn them to decide so calmly and so justly as to place them above the suspicion of being biased by personal feeling or private prejudice.’

"Dispensations for thirty-five new Lodges were granted. The returns from 124 Lodges, with the names of officers and members, and a full tabular statement of 135 Lodges. Initiations 770, admissions 244, dismissions 314, deaths 32, suspensions 38, expulsions 43, Lodges enrolled 138, Lodges extinct 3, total number of members 3,959, total amount of Grand Lodge dues received \$2,564 75.

"M. W. Brother James Hartsock elected Grand Master; R. W. Brother T. S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

"We have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, held in the city of Leavenworth, Monday the 19th October, 1857. A quorum of Lodges not having been reported, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M., when it appearing that four Lodges were duly represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The Grand Master, in his annual address, calls the attention of the Grand Lodge in forcible terms to the necessity and importance of education in common schools. Since the last annual communication, dispensations have been granted to seven new Lodges. The abstract of returns show 5 chartered Lodges—admitted, 15—initiated, 50—passed, 39—raised, 27—rejected, 10—dismissed, 9—suspended, 3—expelled, 2—died, 3—number of members, 170—amount of dues, \$85. The committee on Foreign Correspondence make a very short report, without noticing the proceedings of any of the Grand Lodges. M. W. R. R. Rees was reelected Grand Master, and R. W. Charles Mundee, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

"We have received the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at its annual communication, held in St. Paul, 5th January, 1858; and also its proceedings at its seventh annual communication, held at the same place, commencing October 26th, 1858. We presume they have changed their time of annual meetings. These are the only proceedings we have received from this young sister in the far west, and the last is just at hand. The Grand Secretary reported 19 Lodges duly represented, whereupon the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master, in his address, gives a history of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges on the subject of a General Grand Lodge, from 1780 down to the present day. In the opening of his address he says:

"The year 1858 will be long remembered, and regarded as an era in Masonry. It will be hereafter known as the year of reconciliation and union. I have the pleasure to announce to you from this Grand East, that a reconciliation and union have been effected in New York and in Canada. The published proceedings of Grand Lodges and reports of committees on Foreign Correspondence since 1849, have con-

tained allusions to "New York difficulties:"—such allusions can no longer be had; the day for them is past—we hope, forever. I had the pleasure of being present in the Grand Lodge of New York, when the R. W. Robert Macoy announced that the Articles of Agreement had been signed. Soon thereafter was seen the M. W. John D. Willard, Past Grand Master, entering the Grand Lodge, accompanied by a number of brethren, who in early years had surrounded the same altar, but who had been estranged since 1849; brethren whose hair had grown grey in Masonic service, whose names had been favorably known throughout the length and breadth of the land. Could it be wondered at that some of the younger brethren, in their enthusiastic exultation, should propose three cheers! or that the cheers were participated in by those whose hair was white with age—or that the cheers were extended to three times three? It was a proud moment for Masonry—not only of New York, but of the world,—and one that can never be effaced from the remembrance of those who were present. It presented another, among the thousands of instances, that there exists among true Masons a fraternal feeling which cannot be extinguished; which though covered up for a time by the vicissitudes of life, will burst forth, and glow with renewed fervor.

"We are sure that every good Mason, who loves harmony and fraternal amity, will heartily join in these enthusiastic expressions of joy—especially in this portion of North America—with the M. W. Grand Master of Minnesota.

"In an appendix to the proceedings is an excellent and well-written report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence of fifty pages, which is highly creditable to the author of it, who has some pretensions to wit and humor, and which deserves to be characterized as a very well prepared Masonic paper, and we congratulate our brethren of Minnesota on their good fortune in having such a promising Craftsman to work in their *newly opened quarries*. But we have to regret that the worthy chairman of the committee, who we observe is also the Grand Secretary, did not wait for 'his merits to bespeak his praise.' If he will wait until his *bubbling* mind has time to work off its gaseous fluids, we have hopes that he will make a very prominent reporter of Grand Lodge proceedings. But we would not even now say 'that the cause of Masonry is not advanced, nor is Masonic literature enriched, nor are the Grand Lodge proceedings made valuable' by the labors of our brother. The worthy chairman, after bestowing on our report a *half-way compliment*, says: 'But sometimes he appears to have forgotten the work in which he was engaged, and to have allowed "the old man Adam" to prevail mightily in him. Over thirty pages of the report is devoted to New York. The address of the Grand Master is quoted from, one or two matters are noticed, and *then* the New York Committee of Correspondence get particularly attended to, and the "bad blood" begins to bubble. We do not say that New York did not *deserve*

a rebuke or correction. We do think, however, that the cause of Masonry is not advanced, nor is Masonic literature enriched, nor are the Grand Lodge proceedings made valuable by the style of refutation and recrimination indulged by our brother.' We will remark here that we suspect the worthy chairman did not fully comprehend the import of the word 'recrimination,' as we are not disposed to think that he would intentionally misrepresent us. But it is clear that he did intend to charge us with indulging a vindictive spirit in our New York report ; for which charge he cannot point out one sentence or paragraph to authorize such an allegation in the whole thirty pages of our report, which he says were devoted to New York. As to the design of *enriching Masonic literature* by anything we have ever written, we will say that it is a literary distinction we have never aspired to, and we cheerfully leave the field to such distinguished and accomplished reporters as the chairman of the New York and Minnesota Corresponding Committees. If the worthy chairman of the Minnesota committee was very desirous to rebuke the unfraternal ebullition of temper which occasionally breaks forth in Masonic reports, we respectfully think that a very favorable opportunity was presented in the review of the New York committee of the address of M. W. Grand Master Tucker of Vermont, over which the worthy chairman slumbered for over a year before he uncorked the phials of his wrath ; but that probably may be accounted for by the influence of a very harmless little game, among lovers called *tut-for-tut*. The Minnesota committee, in relation to New York, say : 'The committee on Foreign Correspondence make a report of over one hundred pages, and it is sufficient to say, as a foundation for recommending it, that Brother Finlay M. King was chairman. Minnesota occupies an honorable place among the notices of the various Grand Lodges. Subjects of a general interest, says Brother King, are discussed by the learned and distinguished Brother Pearson with a master's mind.'

MICHIGAN.

"This Grand Lodge convened in annual communication in the city of Detroit, 13th January, 1858. Eighty-four Lodges were represented. The Grand Master, in his annual address, announces in feeling terms the death of Past Grand Master E. Smith Lee. He has granted 14 dispensations for new Lodges. The committee on Foreign Correspondence 'glance at the doings of about eighteen or twenty sister Grand Lodges,' including Canada West. Noticing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida for 1857, they say, 'They are brought to the conclusion that the Freemasons of Canada are not only fully justifiable in *surrendering* their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, but that in forming an independent Grand Lodge, they have performed a duty demanded by their obligations as Masons, and the interests of the Craft.' There is *some* difference in the import of words,—we said

'sundering.' It is not the first time we have noticed that, in quoting our reports, words have been substituted which we never intended to use. It may be from carelessness, or a design to improve our style ; be it as it may, we prefer to use our own words, and to be quoted correctly. There is no return of Lodges or statistical tables.

" Brother William M. Finton was elected M. W. Grand Master, and James Fenton R. W. Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

" We have the proceedings of the 'Grand Stewards' Lodge' and 'of the semi-annual communication' of the Grand Lodge of this State, held in the city of Baltimore, 10th May, 1858. Twenty-one Lodges were represented. The address of the Grand Master is short, and without regard to general subjects. The committee on Foreign Correspondence report that they have had 'under notice' the proceedings of 21 Lodges, but we do not find the name of Florida in the list reported. They publish the returns of 28 Lodges with the names of their officers and members, and the amount of dues received (\$1,261 50), but no regular table of statistics.

" M. W. Jas. Webb, Grand Master ; R. W. J. P. Robinson, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

" The thirty-eighth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of St. Louis, commencing 4th May, 1858. Eighty-eight Lodges were represented. The M. W. Grand Master says in his annual address : 'In the death of Brother Petit the Grand Lodge has lost a zealous and efficient officer, and the Fraternity a worthy brother. The committee on Foreign Correspondence, in the report, review the proceedings of 32 Grand Lodges, but Florida is not among the list. As usual, the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge prepares and publishes very excellent statistical tables (and it would be well if all Grand Secretaries would follow the example), among which are full returns of the names of the officers and members of 140 chartered Lodges, with an aggregate of 5,700 members, initiated 876, passed 742, raised 88, admitted 319, dimitted 431, died 65, suspended 44, expelled 26, with a condensed 'Abstract of the reports of the Grand Lodges of the United States,' showing a grand total of Lodges 4,388, and of members 183,215.

" M. W. Samuel H. Saunders reelected Grand Master, and R. W. A. O'Sullivan, Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

" The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine was held in the city of Portland on the 4th of May, 1858. Seventy-five Lodges were represented. The M. W. Grand Master, in his address, says :

“ ‘It here becomes my painful duty to announce to you the decease of our worthy and highly esteemed brother, John Miller, Esq., a Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and one to whom we were accustomed to look for counsel. As a Freemason, he was learned and accomplished, and ranked among the very first of his associates. He elevated the character of the profession by his talents and unwearied application, and discharged all the duties belonging to it with singular diligence and fidelity. He was called from his earthly labors shortly after our last annual gathering, and was welcomed, we cannot doubt, by our SUPREME GRAND MASTER, to the everlasting joys of His blissful kingdom. He has left behind him a bright Christian example for our imitation, which I trust we shall all delight to follow.’

“The committee on Foreign Correspondence, in reviewing the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Lodges, of which they present a list, say the reports are more voluminous, and, as a whole, more complete and rich in all essential qualities than in any previous year, covering some six thousand pages, and affording substantial evidence of Masonic progress and prosperity, to inspire our gratitude and encourage future endeavors; yet in this long list we do not see Florida named. We are mortified to observe so many instances in which the proceedings of Florida do not appear to have been received by the Grand Secretaries of our sister Grand Lodges. An abstract shows returns from 81 Lodges and one U. D., with an aggregate of 3,391, initiated 486, suspended, 34, expelled 3, died 38. There are no tables of statistics.

“M. W. Hiram Chase was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

“We have an ‘Abstract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts from March 11th to December 28th, 1857,’ of quarterly communications, and an ‘annual communication’ December 9th, 1857. The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master’s address is long and appears to us ample upon all subjects of a local character. Total of initiations 1,092—total of members 5,320. There are no returns of Lodges and no other tabular statements.

“M. W. John T. Head was reelected Grand Master, and R. W. Charles W. Moore, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

“The fortieth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Jackson, on Monday, the 18th day of January 1858. A full representation of Lodges having been reported, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master delivered his annual address, which is of a local and a fraternal character. The committee on Foreign Correspondence notice the proceedings of 31 Grand Lodges, and notice favorably the proceedings of Florida for

1857. The committee also discuss ably the question of the organization of the 'Grand Lodge of Canada, and extract largely from the reports of Florida and South Carolina in support of its legality ; and in noticing the 'singular organization' of the 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada,' they state three principles of Masonic law, in which we fully concur :

"1. No second Grand Lodge can be formed in the territory of another Grand Lodge.

"2. No Lodges are regular save those working under regular warrants.

"3. No person can legally install a Grand Master-elect, save one who holds, or has held a similar office.'

"On the subject of by-laws, they say :

"Your committee are gratified to perceive that very many of the Grand Lodges are adopting the uniform codes of by-laws for the government of their subordinates. In the language of a distinguished brother upon this subject, "it will save much time and labor at every session, on the part of the committees examining the by-laws of Lodges U. D., as well as chartered Lodges, and, moreover, tend to secure more correct work and better government in our Lodges."

"The committee append a very valuable statistical table, showing 85 Grand Lodges in the United States, and 4,199 subordinate Lodges, numbering a total of 164,597 members.

"The Grand Secretary publishes in the proceedings full returns of the names and members of 205 Lodges and 8 U. D., with the names of initiated, passed, and raised, dimitted, admitted, expelled, suspended, reinstated, and deaths, and amount of dues, with a statistical table showing the grand totals: Initiated 917, passed 816, raised 618, admitted 308, dimitted 626, suspended 857, expelled 21, died 115, reinstated 102, number of members 7,310, non-affiliated 297, and a list of the suspensions, expulsions, reinstatements, and deaths in the different jurisdictions of the United States.

"M. W. Wm. Cothran was elected Grand Master, and R. W. T. Daniel, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA.

"We have received the proceedings of the Convention which organized this new sister Grand Lodge in 1857, and also the proceedings at the first annual communication, begun and held in the city of Nebraska, 2d June, 1858. A constitutional number of Lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master, Robert C. Jordan, delivered the annual address, which is full of fraternal interest, and an appropriate oration was pronounced by the Grand Orator. The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report, which they introduce by the following remarks :

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Nebraska, since its foundation in

1857, has been recognized by the Grand Lodges of the following States, they communicating with your honorable body by interchange of printed proceedings and by letters, viz: Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina, South Carolina, New Jersey, Ohio, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia.'

"We regret that our young sister in the Northwest did not also receive our proceedings, for they may be assured that their brethren in the South will as cordially extend to them a fraternal greeting as any of their sister Grand Lodges, and wish them God speed in their noble work. We observe that the Corresponding Committee of New York object to the recognition of this new Grand Lodge, because it is reported that the Grand Officers were installed by a *brother* who is styled '*Most Excellent*,' which we suppose a *misnomer* of the Grand Secretary, in which opinion we are strengthened when we look at the list of Grand Lodges which have so promptly recognized her. But we believe this very committee of New York, in this report, recommends recognition of 'the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada,' whose Grand Master was installed by a *Provincial Grand Master*. Seeing this young sister in the Northwest is the *daughter* of three *mothers*, whose consent to her throwing off the leading-strings does not appear to have been obtained, we suppose, for consistency's sake, our very particular brethren of the New York committee would have required some explanation on that point of the Masonic law.

"The committee, reviewing the proceedings of South Carolina, say:

"The address (Brother Mackey's) also contains spirited remarks upon the subject of over much legislation in Masonic Lodges, and especially in Grand Lodges. The political machinery by which subordinate Lodges are governed should be of the least complicated description. We see by the reports of some of our sister Grand Lodges that they have for their guidance a Constitution and Code of By-Laws amply sufficient in extent for the government of a State. We believe this to be all wrong. A few plain rules laid down, rather as principles than as laws, should be sufficient.'

"There is much wisdom in these remarks, and they come from the right source, and argue well for the future of our young sister. They publish in their report the returns from six Lodges, with the names of the officers and members and other notes, but no table of statistics or totals.

"M. W. Robert C. Jordan was elected Grand Master, and R. W. George Armstrong, Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

"The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, which assembled in the city of Raleigh, 7th December, 1857, are before us. Ninety-two Lodges were represented, and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The 'annual communication' of the Grand Master was read, and although

occupying only about four pages, contains much that is worthy the consideration of all true Craftsmen.

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of 28 Grand Lodges, among which we see Florida enrolled, but they are all for the years 1855 and 1856, and contain nothing that has not been commented upon. They publish the returns from 114 Lodges, with the names of the officers and members, &c., but they are not added up, nor are there any statistical tables.

"M. W. Alfred Martin was elected Grand Master, and William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Concord, commencing on the 8th day of June, 1858. Thirty-eight Lodges were represented. The Grand Lodge was opened in **AMPLE FORM**. The address of the M. W. Grand Master is confined to local subjects—written in a fraternal spirit.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence introduced their report, with a very carefully digested table of statistics of thirty-five Grand Lodges, which they then review very ably and fully in their order. They notice the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of Florida for 1858, in reviewing the proceedings of 28 Grand Lodges, which they say is 'faithfully and impartially' presented. But they say, 'We must beg leave, however, to differ altogether from the opinion of Brother Brown in relation to the attempt to settle the difficulties in New York between what he denominates the Willard party and the Phillips party.' We respectfully think, if our highly esteemed brothers of the New Hampshire committee had seen the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, which had transpired before their report was written but about five days, and especially the proclamation of the M. W. Grand Master, in which he declares that 'the act of union agreed upon in June last between the two bodies, respectively acting as the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, having been this day fully consummated by the performance of its prospective provisions, and the Masonic Fraternity of the State having become consolidated under one jurisdiction,' they would have seen 'how the Willard Grand Lodge could' have done 'otherwise than reject the Articles of Union reported by the committee and preserve their consistency of character.' The act of *union* places them incontestibly upon the footing of *two Grand bodies* of equal standing. What brought about this sudden change in regard to 'consistency of character' is not our place to inquire. We are willing that the past should be buried in oblivion, and we say confidently that no body of Masons will hail the tidings of union and harmony between the discordant bodies of Masons of New York with a greater 'thrill of joy' than their brethren of Florida.

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"There is no return of Lodges published, but we have a 'list of subordinate Lodges' numbering as high as 65, 37 of which appear to have made returns. Total of initiations 309, members 1,731.

"M. W. Moses Paul was elected Grand Master, and Horace Chase, Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

"The annual meeting of this Grand Lodge was held at the Grand Lodge Room in the city of New York on the afternoon of June 1st, 1858. Three hundred and fifty-one Lodges were represented. The Grand Lodge was then opened in AMPLE FORM.

"The Grand Master's address is a valuable Masonic document, which might be read by Masons of every condition with profit. There is much which we would gladly transfer to this report, for the benefit of the Craft in this jurisdiction, if our limits would permit it. There is one admonition which we transfer without comment. He says: 'Do not let the General Assembly of Masons, pure, but yet mere moralists, resemble the battle-ground of a general assembly of polemic disputants, or a congress of law-makers and politicians. It is not necessary to the idea of a battle-ground in a deliberative body that there should be the din of arms and the war-cry. An assault and battery embraces the idea of a manual touching of the body, and a wound or indignity to the person; but there is an assault and battery upon the character and feelings which is neither manual nor pedal, but is literally both guttural and pectoral, leaving its gaping wounds and bloody indices, which neither surgical skill nor physical ablution can heal or wash away. The tongue and the sword are alike implements of destruction.'

"The M. W. Grand Master reports in his address as many as thirty-three cases of Masonic law propounded to him, upon which he has made decisions which, in the main, we believe, are in accordance with the decisions and practice of this Grand Lodge, except in cases where the local Constitution rules. We do not elect our Deacons and Tyler. We think that in all cases where but one blackball occurs, the ballot should be spread a second time, with a caution to be particular in depositing the ballots, and the second ballot should be final. We do not think that the Master of a Lodge can at the same time be Master of a Lodge U. D. We do not think that the duties of the Junior Warden require that he should be the prosecutor, when charges are preferred in the Lodge. The M. W. Grand Master expresses his 'decided disapprobation of the practice of depositing Lodge warrants in lodge-rooms. They should ever be in the custody of the Master or Wardens of the Lodge. They contain the grant of authority for opening and holding a Lodge, and should not be left to caprice or casualty, by which the evidence of the powers of the Lodge may be perverted or lost.' We have had occasion to express a similar opinion, which we believe is supported by Masonic authority. We will make one more extract from

this excellent address, which we think commends itself to the serious consideration of all prudent and reflecting Masons :

“ If this taunt and the sarcasm spoken by thoughtless tongues have power to inflict a deadly sting, how much more potent for evil is the power of the press. Our Fraternity, while it has found organs of speech, such as in past centuries were denied to those who uttered deep thoughts by the sign and symbol only, has also witnessed the extraordinary spectacle of its most secret plans and recondite labors being made the topics of discussion from day to day and from week to week, in public newspapers, as if it were supposed that the machinery of party strife and sectarian bitterness were to be employed to advance or defeat a mere temporary measure, or to affect a mere personal interest. Of light we are in search, and the true Mason basks in the sunshine of knowledge ; but it is the light which beams from the East, bringing gladness, and brightness, and beauty in its train, and not that baleful and lurid glow which occasionally shoots up from the dark chambers of the north. If there be an umingled curse, it is found in the license of publications professing to teach Faith, Hope, and Charity ; and yet, disregarding the silken cords of Faith, quenching the mild torch-light of Hope, and ruthlessly extinguishing the light of life in Charity. It is neither my place nor purpose to point out the names and character of such presses, or to designate whether it be the secular or Masonic press, to which I refer ; for it is to point out the evil, not to proscribe the individual, or muzzle a genuine freedom and independence of feeling or expression, that I allude to it. While thus referring to the publications of the day, I should be doing great injustice to the cause of Freemasonry did I not specially except and cordially commend to the patronage of the brethren, the *Quarterly Masonic Review*,* of this city. Its lofty tone, its pure morals, its comprehensive design, and its high literary excellence, make it an ornament to our jurisdiction and to the Masonic Fraternity of our continent. Patronage at the hands of this Grand Lodge, in its collective capacity, it neither seeks nor expects ; but it commends itself to an intelligent Fraternity by the permanency and value of its material, and the rich storehouse of knowledge which it unfolds to the eager gaze of the zealous student.’

“ On the second day of the meeting of the Grand Lodge at the evening session, ‘ The special order being the proposed amendments to the Constitution, was taken up and discussed,’ and a vote by Lodges was taken, and the result was,

In the negative,	-	-	-	-	-	-	519
In the affirmative,	-	-	-	-	-	-	332

So the proposition was rejected by a negative vote of 187

“ This was a test question upon the adoption of the Articles of Union,

* The discontinuance of this able Masonic periodical, for want of adequate support from the Fraternity, is a loss to the Craft which cannot be easily estimated.—COMPILER.

which had been rejected at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge in June, 1857, and brought forward under a resolution of Past Grand Master Evans, to amend the Constitution in relation to Past Masters.

"On the third day, R. W. Clinton F. Page offered the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the vote of this Grand Lodge on the proposed amendments to the Constitution be reconsidered, and that this resolution and the memorial of Past Masters be referred to a special committee of ten to report at the opening of the evening session ; and that said report and resolution be made the special order of business at that hour.

"Which, on motion, was adopted.

"At the evening session of the same day, R. W. Clinton F. Page, from the special committee of ten, presented the following report and resolutions, the first of which is in these words :

"Resolved, That the vote of this Grand Lodge, rejecting the proposed amendments to the Constitution, be reconsidered.

"Which was received, and a vote by Lodges was called for and ordered on the first resolution, and on counting the ballots, there were found in the affirmative, 647—and in the negative, 255 ; making a majority in the affirmative of 392, by which the glorious Articles of Union were consummated. We are not told what caused this wonderful change of 597 votes in the short space of twenty-four hours ; and it is not our business to inquire. It is enough for us to know that this great event has been accomplished in the union of two contending bodies of Masons for supremacy in the great jurisdiction of New York, without pretending to learn what powerful alchemical agent could have been infused into the body, to neutralize the asperities of so many years' growth in so short a period, and to bring about a union and a state of fraternal harmony which 'will cause the great heart of the Brotherhood throughout the world to thrill with joy and exultation,' and in which we most cordially sympathize with heart-felt greetings, and invoke a fraternal oblivion of the past, and union and brotherly love as enduring as the foundations of our Temple.

"We extract the following from the provisions ratified :

"SECTION 1. There is but one Grand Lodge in the State of New York ; that of which the M. W. John L. Lewis, Jr., is now Grand Master, whose territorial jurisdiction is coëxistent with the limits of the State.

"SEC. 2. That all proceedings had in relation to suspensions or expulsions, arising out of the transactions known as the 'difficulties of 1849,' shall be, and are hereby rescinded ; and all such persons as may have been so suspended or expelled, are hereby restored to full membership, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

"SEC. 3. That all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of the last named party mentioned in the preamble, shall have the rank and title of Past Grand Officers, and be recognized as such.

“ ‘R. W. Finlay M. King gave notice of the adoption and ratification of the Articles of Union, and that the brethren were now in waiting to be introduced to the Grand Lodge. When M. W. John D. Willard then presented M. W. James Jenkinson and other P. G. Officers, who were received and welcomed by the Grand Master with the usual Grand honors.

“ ‘Congratulations upon the “Union” were tendered with appropriate remarks, by M. W. Brother J. W. S. Mitchell, Past Grand Master of Missouri ; M. W. Brother Pierson, Grand Master of Minnesota, and by the representatives of the Grand Lodges and Grand Orients, viz. : Oregon, Louisiana, Quebec, and Three Rivers, Alabama, Venezuela, France, California, Saxony, Wisconsin, Peru, New Jersey, and Frankfort-on-the-Main.’

“ ‘The committee on Foreign Correspondence make a long and well prepared report, presenting a list of proceedings of thirty-four American Grand Lodges, including the Grand Lodges of Canada, together with the Foreign Grand Lodges of Scotland, Ireland, Prussia, and Peru. But we were disappointed at not seeing any notice taken of Florida in the report ; which circumstance would have extorted from us an expression of deep regret, and perhaps a charge of neglect against our worthy Grand Secretary, if we did not happen to have satisfactory information that our proceedings for 1858 were received, and a portion read and considered in the Grand Lodge. In a letter to a member of the Grand Lodge of Florida, dated ‘Grand Lodge-Room, 3d June, 1858,’ the writer says, ‘The Grand Lodge of New York is now in session, and your Grand Lodge proceedings are under review, particularly so much as relates to your committee on Correspondence report on the New York proceedings.

“ ‘We are in a fevered state of agitation respecting the question of amending our Constitution. Last evening, the last act passed was the rejection of the amendment proposed relating to the restoration of Past Masters who became such prior to December, 1849. This morning a motion to reconsider was made, and will come up as special order to-morrow morning.’ We are glad we have this opportunity to vindicate our Grand Secretary from a suspicion of neglect of duty, which would have been implied, had our proceedings not been received at New York three months after publication.

“ ‘Noticing the proceedings of Connecticut, the committee say : ‘The Grand Lodge (very foolishly, as we think), adopted a resolution limiting the remuneration of the committee on Foreign Correspondence for their services to *twenty-five* dollars.’ We do not know that our sister of Connecticut is obnoxious to this courteous charge, but we do know that our Grand Lodge has never made any ‘*remuneration*’ to their committee on Foreign Correspondence.

“ ‘The committee then conclude their report with a review of Canadian affairs, and by a very *logical* argument arrive at the conclusion,

after all they have written upon the subject to the contrary, that not only the 'so-called independent Grand Lodge of Canada,' but the 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada,' are both legally constituted Grand Lodges ; and that 'the *coexistence of two Grand Lodges in one political territory in America*' is perfectly legal and regular ; and that the action of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, in declaring its independence of the Grand Lodge of England, surrendering the charters of its subordinate Lodges, and forming the 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada,' was also legitimate and regular. To do justice to the reasoning and argumentative powers of the learned committee of New York, we copy that portion of their report for the information of the Fraternity in Florida and for preservation :

"The committee are favored with a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, at its half-yearly communication, of the 21st of May, 1856, and other meetings of that body down to the time of its dissolution, or of its merging into the 'Ancient Grand Lodge' on the 9th of September last.

"At the first of these communications a resolution was adopted, expressing the approval of that body of a motion that had been proposed to be made by the V. W. Brother George R. Portal, in the Grand Lodge of England, allowing the Provincial Grand Lodge to enjoy "All the immunities and privileges of an *independent Grand Lodge*, save and except that it shall once in every three years *submit the names of two or more brethren* to the M. W. the Grand Master of England, *who shall appoint one of them* Provincial Master." This was directed to be sent to the Grand Lodge and Grand Officers of England. It would appear from the minutes of the meeting of October, 1856, that this communication or petition embodying its sense, did not receive a very respectful consideration by the Grand Master of England, whatever may have been the course pursued in respect thereto by the Grand Lodge, for the Provincial Grand Lodge then declared that it "was deeply pained that the Grand Master of England should have received in such a manner the constitutional conduct which this Provincial Grand Lodge has pursued throughout their difficulties and grievances." Several other resolutions were passed of similar import, one of which authorized the presentation of a petition to the Grand Lodge of England, in place of the one forwarded to the Grand Master. Another resolution was adopted appointing a committee to draw up a petition embodying "the grievances and present wants of the brethren, and that the same be printed and sent round to every Lodge in Canada West, retaining its legal attachment to the mother Grand Lodge of England, for their earnest consideration thereof," and the Deputy Grand Master was requested to call a special meeting to "confirm the petition for transmission to England." A meeting was accordingly called, and held at Toronto on the 8th of January, 1857, at which, from the report of the Provincial Secretary, it appeared that some thirty Lodges had acted upon and

"given their entire and cordial approval of the memorial." It was also received and adopted by the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the representatives of that body in the Grand Lodge of England were requested to enforce the prayer of said memorial. The memorial is not given, and we cannot, therefore, precisely tell what its character was.

"An important communication was held at Toronto (half yearly) on the 30th of June, 1857, at which the R. W. Bro. Thomas G. Ridout, Deputy Grand Master presided. In the brief address presented by him to the Grand Lodge, he states that, "in view of the important matter pending between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of England, and upon which we have been anxiously expecting the decision of the latter body, I thought it expedient to defer calling you together until ample time had been allowed for such decision to be announced. I regret to inform you that as yet the Grand Lodge of England has not granted the prayer of the memorial adopted by you, nor does it seem probable, from the tenor of the correspondence which the Grand Secretary will now lay before you, that you will discover any reason for hoping that the privileges sought by this Provincial Grand Lodge will be conceded to it." Resolutions having been adopted in 1856 forbidding intercourse with the so-called "Grand Lodge of Canada" and its subordinates, they were *at this communication in June, 1857, rescinded*. The rescinding resolutions have heretofore escaped our notice. It appears to us that these resolutions must afford a partial basis, however narrow it may be, for claiming the legitimacy of that body. It is, however, a very frail and unsubstantial ground upon which to build an argument whose conclusions involve such vast results. Lest the document may pass from our hands, we deem it proper to copy the three resolutions on this subject, and, first, is the one forbidding intercourse, adopted October 23d, 1856, which is as follows :

"*Resolved*, That the Lodges and individual brethren under this jurisdiction are hereby strictly forbidden to hold any Masonic communication with the self-styled Grand Lodge of Canada, or any Lodge or any individual having any connection therewith.

"*Having heard from England when they next convened, eight months afterwards, 30th June, 1857, they*

"*Resolved*, That the resolution adopted at the regular communication of this Grand Lodge, held on the 23d of October last, forbidding communication of our members with those of the Grand Lodge of Canada, be rescinded.

"*Resolved*, That whereas no instructions have been received from the Grand Lodge of England, touching the resolution No. 4, October 23, 1855, forbidding communication with the Norfolk and other seceding Lodges,

"*Resolved*, That such resolution be hereby rescinded.

"Two very important deductions may be made from the latter two of the resolutions, the first of which is, that the members of the two sections of the Craft in Canada could hold masonic intercourse with each other without incurring the displeasure of the Provincial Grand

Lodge ; the second, that "the Grand Lodge of Canada" was thereby recognized *de facto* by the Provincial Grand Lodge, for it could not rescind a resolution forbidding intercourse therewith and with its subordinates, unless they regarded the body, in and with which confidence and Masonic fellowship were thus restored, as legitimate and regular. But these resolutions do not stand alone in this *quasi* recognition. They are succeeded on the next page but one with two others, indicating the same position as being taken by the Grand Lodge towards the other body. They are as follows :

"*Resolved*, That the interests of Masonry require that proper unity of the Craft should be restored and maintained throughout the Province. That being actuated by the spirit of the foregoing resolution (one in which a design is expressed to effect an organization separate from the Grand Lodge of England), and accepting an invitation of an anxious desire on the part of the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada for an union of those composing this Provincial Grand Lodge, with a view to the restoration of perfect unity among Freemasons in Canada :

"*Resolved*, That the committee appointed on the 23d of October, 1856, be reappointed, with power to take such measures as they may consider necessary and expedient to effect such unity, and to meet any committee appointed for a like purpose by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and with them to negotiate preliminary terms on which such reunion may be accomplished and consolidated, reporting at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

"Here is a very clear recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada on the part of the Provincial body. It is a proposition and a basis to treat and negotiate with her on terms of equality ; and yet upon what legal grounds the proposition was made it is difficult to perceive, unless it was thereby designed to make it regular, which we think was the effect ; for, as no change had taken place in respect to obtaining the consent, either expressed or implied, of the present body, for its formation, since it was originally organized, it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that it was still a regular Masonic body,—so declared previously by the Provincial Grand Lodge and by the Grand Lodge of New York. But other resolutions were adopted at the same time of a somewhat different character, and it is proper that we should present them ; they are as follows :

"*Resolved*, That with unfeigned grief, this Provincial Grand Lodge, in fidelity to the Order within this Province, is constrained to declare that separate organization is necessary for the efficiency and stability of Freemasonry in Canada.

"*Resolved*, That on the confirmation of the foregoing resolution (at the next ensuing meeting of this Grand Lodge), this Grand Lodge shall declare itself an independent Grand Lodge, all warrants from the Grand Lodge of England being returned thereto.

“ ‘Here is a different plan in contemplation, *apparently* antagonistic to the other, and yet at the succeeding communication, on the 9th of September, the R. W. Bro. Sir Allen N. McNab, Provincial Grand Master, the record states that “The minutes of the last half yearly meeting holden at Toronto, on Tuesday, the 30th day of June, 1857, were read and confirmed.” What was confirmed? The liberal definition of this term is—ratified, established; and we were at first of the opinion that such was understood to be its meaning by the Provincial Grand Lodge; but it is evident from another resolution which was subsequently adopted, and which we will presently notice, that the confirmation was only of the fact that transactions took place as are recorded in those minutes, and that they were correctly recorded; not that the Independent Grand Lodge was thereby recognized anew, or that the Provincial Grand Lodge was thereby declared to be independent; for the former had already been done, and the latter was provided for at a later period of the session, in the adoption of a specific resolution on that subject.

“ ‘Meantime, under the resolutions before mentioned, the committees of two bodies had conferences, at which they sought to reconcile the two organizations, but failed. After the report was presented to the Provincial Grand Lodge, “the R. W. the Provincial Grand Master was pleased to address the Grand Lodge as follows :

“ ‘“The Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West having declared its independence, I, as the representative of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, now direct and require that every Master or delegate, holding any warrant of a Lodge from the Grand Lodge of England, do now return the same to me, in accordance with the suggestion of the Grand Master of England, contained in his address to the Grand Lodge on the 4th of March last.” Whereupon all the Lodges except one handed over their warrants, and it will hardly admit of a doubt that unless the existence of these Lodges was legally preserved, by the qualified retention of the warrants or the preservation of their authority by the exchange of dispensations therefor, they thereby became defunct; that, on the other hand, if this authority was continued all their powers continued. And with a view to ascertain these facts definitely, the chairman of this committee, on the 19th of March last addressed a letter to the R. W. Bro. Francis Richardson, the late Provincial Grand Secretary, to get authentic information, to which he replied in a courteous and fraternal letter on the 25th of the same month; but the reply not being as specific as desired, another was addressed to him on the 30th of March, submitting the following categorical questions, viz. :

“ ‘1st. Had the Masters, Wardens or Representatives of all the Lodges there represented *delivered* their warrants to Sir Allen McNab prior to the adoption of the resolution (at page 42) by which it was declared that a Grand Lodge of Canada be now formed, &c. ?

“2d. If all had not so delivered their warrants at that particular point of time, how many of them were afterwards delivered ?

“To these questions we received a reply as follows :

“TORONTO, April 5, 1858.

“*Dear Sir and R. W. Brother :—*In reply to yours of the 30th of March : The warrants were *all* handed in to Sir Allen McNab prior to the adoption of the resolution on page 42. The call was made for the purpose of ascertaining what Lodges intended to join the movement—all joined with the exception of one, whose representative then retired from the meeting. The warrants were laid on one side, and it was quite competent for any representative to take back the warrant of his Lodge at any time prior to the delivery of the dispensation, at which time the actual surrender took place. I hope this will make the matter quite clear to you. I am in strong hopes that an union will be effected between the bodies before you hold your meeting in June.

“I remain, faithfully yours,

“FRANCIS RICHARDSON.

“FINLAY M. KING, Esq.,

“*Port Byron, N. Y.*

“The resolution referred to was adopted at the same sitting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and immediately succeeding the handing up of the warrants, and is as follows, viz. :

“*Resolved unanimously*, That in true, loyal and constitutional succession to the late Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, a Grand Lodge of Canada be now formed, constituted, and proclaimed, under the title of the

ANCIENT GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

“Sir Allen McNab was then elected Grand Master ; a form of dispensation for the Lodges was presented and adopted, and the constitutions of England were adopted for the government of the Craft. The Grand Master was installed the next day by the R. W. Thos. D. Harington, Provincial Grand Master for Quebec and Three Rivers. It has been objected that there were not Lodges enough present to form a Grand Lodge, on the ground that all present, except one, had surrendered their warrants. This would have been true but for the fact that, as explained by Bro. Richardson, the delegates still retained control of their warrants, and that there was no interval in the meeting, no adjournment ; but the call of the Provincial Grand Master for the warrants, had they in fact been surrendered, and the adoption of the resolution of independence, were a succession of events closely connected with, and entirely dependent on each other. It is a rule in municipal law, and we know of no reason why it may not be applied to Masonic law, that a day should never be divided into fractions,

unless for the purpose of guarding against injustice. If we are right in these conclusions and in the facts stated, it appears that :

“ 1. There were more than three Lodges represented, and therefore, more than enough to form a Grand Lodge, at the time the Ancient Grand Lodge was formed.

“ 2. That the Provincial Grand Lodge has ceased to exist, and it must be understood that the Provincial Grand Master has resigned, for he could not very well hold the offices of Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Master at the same time.

“ 3. That a constitution was adopted and Grand Officers elected and installed by competent authority.

“ 4. That the consent of the Supreme Government was given to the formation of the Ancient Grand Lodge, as manifest in the action of its agent and representative, Sir Allen N. McNab, the late Provincial Grand Master of Canada West, who was present, and authorized and sanctioned the proceedings. He represents the person and authority of the Grand Master of England, and in the language of the English constitutions, “ is invested with rank and power in his particular district similar to those possessed by the Grand Master himself.” If the Earl of Zetland had stepped into the shoes of Sir Allen McNab, and called the Canadian Lodges together, and presided over their deliberations until, by his coöperation and countenance, they had formed a Grand Lodge : or if he had occupied the place of the R. W. T. Douglass Harrington, who was alike his general agent and representative, no higher legal sanction could have been given to the proceedings than was given, and yet it would be difficult to dispute the legality of such an act, or the legitimacy of the Grand Lodge thus inaugurated.

“ 5. It is a matter of history, that prior to the organization of the Ancient Grand Lodge, there were several bodies exercising Masonic authority in British America, whose jurisdictions were, or seem to have been, co-extensive with its territorial boundaries, viz. : The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, to which may be added as subordinate authorities, the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada West, of Montreal and William Henry, and of Quebec and Three Rivers. If these bodies co-existed in any one political division on this side the St. Lawrence, but one of them could be regarded as regular ; but it appears to us, after the Grand Lodge of New York and all other Grand Lodges in the United States, have, time out of mind, recognized the co-existence of a plurality of Grand Lodge jurisdictions in that territory, she is estopped from denying the legitimacy of the Ancient Grand Lodge on this ground. We therefore conclude that the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada is a legally organized Grand Lodge. We also conclude that the Grand Lodge of Canada is, since its recognition by the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the demise of the latter body also, a legal Masonic organization. There is some hesitation on the part of this

committee to state these conclusions, because of the possible inference that may be drawn that we would recognize the co-existence of two Grand Lodges in one political territory in the United States. Nothing is farther from our intention. Except in Canada there is no one political division in the Western world where two or more Grand Lodges can legally co-exist; and they could not there, but for the fact that they have so co-existed for a long period of years, and the Grand Lodges of the United States have all along recognized them as regular. We base our recommendation of a recognition of the "Grand Lodge of Canada," 1st, upon the principles laid down at the time this subject was discussed at large by this committee in 1856, that before we recognize an independent Grand Lodge in the British Provinces, "one of those contingencies must happen which are provided for in the Ancient Landmarks or by the organic laws from which the constituent Lodges severally derived their existence; that is, the government must be changed, so that the Masonic bodies recognize the ruling power *de facto*, or the (express) consent of the parent body be obtained, or the Provincial Grand Lodge must cease to exist." To say nothing about the recognition of the "Grand Lodge of Canada" by the Provincial Grand Lodge before mentioned, which we deem only another mode of granting "consent" for its formation, it is sufficient that two of the Provincial Grand Lodges have "ceased to exist," viz.: those of Canada West, and Quebec and Three Rivers. It has, therefore, since the demise of these Provincial Grand Lodges, and especially since its recognition by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, occupied much the same position as those of Georgia and Virginia, at the time of their organization, the former in 1776 and the latter in 1778. It would, therefore, be captious in us longer to withhold our recognition of the "Grand Lodge of Canada," when the principles on which we stated it might be legally formed, have been complied with, and have ceased to form a barrier to its recognition.

"We omitted to mention in its proper connection, that we have no more right to object to the legality of the Canadian Grand Lodges, on account of the intercommingling of their jurisdictions, than we have to deny the legitimacy of the Prussian Grand Lodges, which have co-existed, by the common consent of the Grand Lodges of the world, for a half century past. The Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, the Grand Landes Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Royal York to the Friendship, at Berlin, all exercise concurrent jurisdiction over the Prussian States, and no one questions the regularity of either; but so strong is the repugnance among the Grand Lodges of the world to this doctrine of a plurality of Grand Lodge jurisdictions, that we doubt if it be extended another inch beyond where their prescriptive titles have established the right to its continuance.'

"Upon the strength of this felicitous course of reasoning, the com-

mittee presented, for the action of the Grand Lodge of New York, the following preamble and resolutions :

“ 11. *Resolved*, That the body which was formed at Toronto, on the 9th and 10th days of September, to succeed the late Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, under the circumstances detailed in the foregoing report, as the “Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada,” be and hereby is recognized as a legal Masonic organization and Grand Lodge.

“ 12. *Whereas*, The body which was formed at Hamilton, Canada West, on the 10th day of October, 1855, having been recognized as an existing Masonic organization by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, since the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, in the adoption of a resolution restoring and establishing Masonic intercourse and fellowship with the officers, members, and constituents thereof, as appears by the official proceedings of the said Provincial Grand Lodge, stated in the foregoing report, and

“ *Whereas*, The said Provincial Grand Lodge having ceased to exist; and

“ *Whereas*, The long existence and recognition of a plurality of Grand Lodge jurisdictions in the British Provinces, by the Grand Lodges of the United States, *estops* the Fraternity from disfranchising or ignoring either of the Masonic jurisdictions, or their members, on account thereof; and

“ *Whereas*, It is the earnest desire of this Grand Lodge that harmony, fraternal feeling and prosperity prevail among our Canadian brethren, and to this end, that a firm, lasting, and cordial union be consummated between all regular Masonic organizations in said Provinces, so that there shall be but one supreme head therein—therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Canada, so formed at Hamilton, on the 10th day of October, 1855, be, and hereby is recognized as a legal Grand Lodge: *Provided, nevertheless*, That nothing in the above preambles, or in the last preceding, or in this resolution, shall be construed to admit the regularity or possibility of a plurality of Grand Lodge jurisdictions over the same territory in any other country on the Western continent; and it is hereby declared that the only ground upon which this Grand Lodge can look with tolerance upon a plurality of Grand Lodge jurisdictions in the Canadian Provinces is, that they have so long co-existed in those territories, with the assent and acquiescence of the Grand Lodges of the world, that they cannot now be ignored; and it is further declared to be the disposition of this Grand Lodge, that when the various Grand Lodges in the jurisdiction of Canada shall become consolidated into one supreme government, it must terminate such plurality of jurisdictions in the Western world, so far as the same may look for approval from the Grand Lodge of New York.

“All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

“FINLAY M. KING,

“C. F. BAUER,

“E. T. OATLEY,

“*Committee on Foreign Correspondence.*

“NEW YORK, June 1, 1858.’

“After the Union of the two Grand Lodges in New York and the prospect of harmony and fraternity which that auspicious event foreshadowed, and not disposed to be very critical in regard to the process of reasoning resorted to by our brethren of New York to escape the awkward position in which they found themselves, after being deserted by nearly all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and by some in Europe, we rejoiced that the reign of peace and brotherly love was about to be inaugurated in our Western hemisphere. We were to hear no more of ‘*the so-called Independent Grand Lodge of Canada.*’ The only disturbing element was the position of New York and Pennsylvania, which we doubted not would soon be reconciled ; for we had great faith in a speedy and honorable arrangement of the difficulties existing among our brethren in Canada. But we were sadly disappointed to see by the records of the Grand Lodge, that when the 11th and 12th resolutions, appended to the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, with the preamble, were called up for consideration, they were, on motion of M. W. Past Grand Master Joseph D. Evans, indefinitely postponed. We were all at sea again without compass. The action of the Craft in Canada was not yet to be recognized by the Grand Lodge of New York, and yet we cannot but think that the Grand Lodge of New York, in the rejection of the preamble and resolutions of their Corresponding Committee, acted with great wisdom and foresight ; for, had they adopted them, they would have been placed in a very unenviable position by the subsequent action of the Masons of Canada, and by the decision of the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, in the condemnation of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West in these caustic terms, which we extract from a letter by his Grand Secretary to T. Douglas Harington, Esq., dated ‘Freemasons’ Hall, London, 10th June, 1858 :’

“‘You have made your choice, whether you would represent a Province holding under the Grand Lodge of England, or that of an independent and separate body. You cannot claim to be regarded in both capacities ; and when you ask how you could legally throw off your allegiance, you cannot seriously expect that any one could point out to you where, in the Book of Constitutions, a law is to be found which would justify brethren in placing themselves *above* the law.

“‘Lastly, I have only to remark, that had Sir Allan McNab resigned his appointment (as you did) on the severance of his allegiance in Sep-

tember last ; or, had he, during his lengthened stay in London, taken the opportunity of doing so, the M. W. Grand Master would have been spared the disagreeable necessity of superseding him in the February following.'

"Thus have all the cob-web arguments of the astute committee of New York been scattered to the winds. The 'Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada,' seeing its untenable position after the disavowal of the Grand Master of England of the action of the *Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West*, wisely threw itself into the arms of the Grand Lodge of Canada, whereby all the Craft in Canada became affiliated under that Grand Lodge, leaving the question of legitimacy in the very same position in which it stood in October, when the forty-one Lodges in Canada West organized the Grand Lodge of Canada, *without the sanction of the mother Grand Lodge*, which New York, Massachusetts, and Virginia declared a *sine qua non* to her recognition. We can't say what is now to be done ! To acknowledge error and retrace their steps, we suppose, is rather a mortifying position for venerable Grand Lodges, of whom the New York committee speak in this wise : 'And especially when a triumvirate of sovereign States, like those of New York, Massachusetts, and Virginia, should venture, after laborious investigation and calm reflection, to express their opinion upon such a subject,' little Vermont ought to have been awed into silence ; and particularly when 'the oldest Grand Lodges of the United States, and those which have enjoyed the reputation of having their legislation and jurisprudence characterized as *second* to none in the world, were of the opinion that the body was illegally formed, and this opinion, so far as our knowledge extends, remains unaltered,' all the Grand Lodges should have submitted in silence. But like the eleven *obstinate jurors*, they have all decided the other way and left the *triumvirate* alone in their glory. Well, we confess, we have no consolation to offer our brethren of the New York committee, but we will venture a little bit of advice. They should reflect, that it is not the *antiquity of a Grand Lodge* that necessarily qualifies her to dictate Masonic law to her sister Grand Lodges, but the *antiquity of Free and Accepted Masonry* which she cultivates and disseminates among the Craft.

"The committee, in reviewing the proceedings of the 'Independent Grand Lodge of Canada,' notice the report of their committee on Foreign Correspondence, and give its chairman, Brother H. B. Bull, a gentle reprimand. They regret 'that the author of it did not advance more of his own views, instead of making it to consist almost entirely of the views of others.' They suggest, that 'perhaps the *youthful years* of the body for which he spoke influenced him to adopt rather than suggest opinions.' If that were the fact, we respectfully think that our brethren of the Canada committee erred greatly in not adopting the opinions of 'those which have enjoyed the reputation of hav-

ing their legislation and jurisprudence characterized as second to none in the world.' They compliment the address of Grand Master Wilson in very high terms, and make an extract from it as a specimen of oratory, and say :

"The address of the Grand Master Wilson is a paper which reflects credit upon its author, and for which no jurisdiction would need to feel ashamed. It would hardly be expected that a Grand Master of the urbanity of Brother Wilson would omit an occasion so opportune for expressing his obligations to the publications and authorities which had contributed their aid to the establishment of the body over which he presides. Nor need we add that it was done, and in a style that a Chesterfield might emulate, and with a prudence towards opposing opinions that a Talleyrand might have copied.'

"We would not suppose that the learned chairman of the New York committee of Correspondence had much pretensions to *Chesterfieldian* manners, but we do award to him some claim to the diplomacy of M. Talleyrand ; and think if he had displayed a little more ingenuity in his *argument* on the legality of two Grand Lodges in Canada, his claim to a rivalry of the great *Ignatius Loyala* for the *cunning* of his logic would be unquestionable.

"But we have extended this report further than we intended on the subject, and must pass over other important matters in this able New York report without comment. At the last of the proceedings is a roll of Lodges, numbering as high as 450, and 4 U. D., but no table of statistics.

"M. W. Brother John L. Lewis, Jr. was reelected Grand Master, and R. W. Brother James M. Austin, Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

"The Grand Lodge of Oregon convened in annual communication at Astoria on the 12th day of July, 1858. Fifteen Lodges were represented. The Grand Lodge was then opened in ample form. The M. W. Grand Master, Brother Benj. Stark, delivered a short and fraternal annual address. Among other things interesting to the Fraternity, he informs the Grand Lodge that he had granted, since the last annual communication, dispensations for seven new Lodges, charters for which were issued. The committee on Foreign Correspondence report the receipt of the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Lodges, including the Grand Lodge of Canada, during the past year, and remark, 'Every Grand Lodge with which we are in correspondence, except Massachusetts and Missouri. The fact deserves to be chronicled, as a proof of the attention of the Grand Secretaries of our sister jurisdictions, as well as a wonderful instance of the successful transmission by mail to this remote border of our nation of so many documents from so many widely separated sources ;' and we would add, the strongest evidence

that could be given of the great perfection to which the mail arrangements in this great republic have attained, and a gratifying assurance that we are one people. The report is well written, and examines several mooted questions with a judgment and discrimination affording satisfactory evidence that our brethren of Oregon have, in their forests and quarries, skillful and experienced craftsmen. Upon the question of a 'Belief in the authenticity of the Bible,' the committee quote from several reports, and among them our report of last year, and say, 'Very good, so far, but what would Brether Brown do if the candidate *refused* to avow his opinion on the subject?' We think our respected brother will see, upon reflection, that that question would be more properly asked of those who contend for the *avowal*. We said '*the only declaration of faith necessary on the part of the candidate before initiation, is the profession of belief and trust in God.*' But we said further, that '*A man who declares his disbelief in the divine authority of the Holy Bible cannot be made a Mason.*' We meant by the word 'declares,' one who is avowedly a Deist,—who speaks of the Bible as a fable,—who publicly denies its Divine authority; or one, when at the altar, who would acknowledge his belief and trust in one God, but would, of his own accord, declare his disbelief in the TRUTHS of the Book which lay open on the altar before him. We said, 'Such a man cannot be made a Mason.' He could not be made a Mason, because he would be a *perjured man* within the knowledge of every Mason present, and unworthy to be a brother and associate of the 'Sons of Light.' God has not given us the power to see into men's hearts. We have no power to guard against *mental reservation*, but by the test of the Bible; and 'cowardly knaves' who would swear falsely the one, would not hesitate to do it the other way. This we regard as the gist of the whole question. The proceedings are well gotten up, and they publish a statistical table and the returns from twenty-four Lodges, giving the names of officers and members. Total enrolled members, 612; initiated, 183; passed, 164; raised, 138; admitted, 39; dismissed, 67; died, 6; rejected, 43; suspended, 5; expelled, 4; amount of dues to Grand Lodge, \$979.

"We take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge addressed to the chairman of this committee, with the respects of Brother A. Halbrook.

"M. W. Brother B. Stark was reelected Grand Master, and R. W. Brother C. J. Trenchard, Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"The annual Grand communication of the Grand Lodge of this State was held in the city of Philadelphia, December 28th, 1857. One hundred and nineteen Lodges were represented. The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The Grand Master, M. W. Peter William-

son, delivered the annual address, in which he gives an account of visitations to the Lodges in the State, and the performance of other duties pertaining to his office, and says, 'I retire from office at a time of unparalleled prosperity in the history of the Craft in this Jurisdiction.'

"The Grand Master-elect, on his installation, delivered a very able and fraternal address, from which we take the following extract, which shows a custom, we believe, which does not exist in any other Grand Lodge, and which must result beneficially to the Craft :

"One of the most trying duties of the Grand Master meets him before he enters on his term of office. Between the time of the election of a new Grand Master and his installation—a period of about three weeks—he is called upon to select from the whole body of Past Masters, sixty-seven to serve on important committees, seven to act as officers of the Grand Lodge, and seventeen to assume the honorable and arduous station of District Deputy Grand Master.'

"Nor can we avoid making another extract upon a subject which all good Masons ought to understand, but which we fear all do not consider :

"Charity, that honest charity, which "covers a multitude of sins," is, in its most ample form, the greatest virtue and honor of Masonry. Charity of opinion, charity of construction of motive, charity of concealment of repentant error, the wise and graceful charity that blesses him that gives and him who receives,—*that is Masonic charity*. But to practice it fairly, Masons must be enlightened, as well as economical. The funds accumulated for a generous purpose should be prudently stored and generously given, and not wasted in ostentation or riotous living, nor spent in any other way than that which leads to the alleviation of sorrow, or the relief of want. I am far from condemning the social meetings of Masons, which serve to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood, and brighten the chain of friendship ; but let me entreat you to make your entertainments as simple and inexpensive as possible, avoiding ostentation and the rivalry of Lodges, and closing your festivity at such an hour as may suit health and bear reflection. Vain would be the advice offered to subordinate Lodges, if the Grand Lodge were not to set them an example of economy in the use of the funds entrusted to its charge. All the funds of the Grand Lodge have been derived from liberal individual Masons, and from the subordinate Lodges, and they are a sacred deposit solely for true Masonic purposes, and first among these for charity.'

"The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Lodges, including Canada West, and is written in a spirit and style we greatly admire. We do believe that the 'excuse' which the chairman offers—from the free and unaffected manner in which it is done—is all he says, and we hope we

may be permitted to read another report from his pen, which we hope will not be *incompatible* with his 'comfort,' as we are well assured it would add to his 'success.'

"We find the proceedings of a list of Lodges under its jurisdiction, with other statistical notes. Number of Lodges, 156—contributing members, 11,428—initiated in 1847, 1,568—suspended and expelled, 281—applications rejected, 190.

"Address of Grand Master is M. W. Dr. John K. Mitchell, No. 1100 Walnut street; of the Grand Secretary, R. W. Wm. H. Adams, Masonic Hall, Chesnut street.

RHODE ISLAND.

"We have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, at special, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual communications, from 22d August, 1856, to 24th June, 1857. There being delegations from all the Lodges in the jurisdiction, the annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in DUE FORM. This being not only the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, but the centennial celebration of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, of the city of Providence, at 10 o'clock A. M., the procession was formed, consisting of all the Lodges and Encampments in the State and the Grand Chapter of the State, and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and Encampments from Boston and Representatives of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. The procession moved through the various streets of the city to the Baptist meeting-house, where the services were performed in a solemn and imposing manner, and an address by the Rev. George W. Cheevers, the Grand Chaplain, which is thus described :

"The address partook rather of a historical character, as was expected, and gave evidence of great depth of thought, patient research, and a thorough acquaintance with the worthy principles and benevolent tendencies of our time-honored institution.

"The speaker remarked, that it was not his province to introduce the Fraternity to this community; that was done one hundred years ago; neither was any defense of its measures and motives required. Masonry was now the largest and the oldest of any human institution, and it wields an important influence in every quarter of the globe.

"A century has been completed since the St. John's Lodge was instituted in the town (now city) of Providence. He then proceeded to give a historical view of the rise and progress of Freemasonry from the earliest time. After adverting to the persecutions, trials and triumphs through which the Order had passed during the last seven centuries, he gave a highly interesting account of its introduction into this country and into this State. In Providence, on the 7th day of May, 1805, the first steps were taken which resulted in the establishment of the General Grand Encampment of the United States.'

"After the address, the procession marched to the Railroad Hall,

where a sumptuous dinner was provided for over 1,300 plates ; and, after the festivities were over, the Grand Lodge was called off from labor until the first Monday in August next. First Monday in August, at 9 o'clock A. M., the Grand Lodge was called to labor, and proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

"The committee on Foreign Correspondence reported that they had received the proceedings of thirty Grand Lodges, among which we see the name of Florida, but which they had not time then to report upon in detail ; but they say, 'courtesy, however, requires that the earliest opportunity should be taken to acknowledge their report.'

"Full returns are published of sixteen Lodges, with the names of officers and members. Total number of members 1,048. No table of statistics.

"M. W. Brother James Hutchison, Grand Master ; R. W. Brother William C. Barker, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

"The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of this State are before us, reporting quarterly and special meetings from the 19th January, 1857, to 3d March, 1858, and one Grand annual communication and Grand Feast of St. John the Evangelist (27th), but held on Monday, 28th December, 1858.

"The committee on Amendment to the Constitution made a report, which was under consideration, but it does not appear that there was any final action upon it. The R. W. Grand Secretary, Brother Albert G. Mackey, made a report, which it is not necessary for us to say is able. He treats largely on Canadian affairs. In regard to the action of Missouri, he says : 'It will be remembered by some who now hear me, that for many years I have stood up almost "solitary and alone" in defense of the doctrine that a Grand Lodge has the prerogative of restoring an expelled or suspended member to membership in his Lodge, as well as to the rights and privileges of Masonry. At length I am supported in the doctrine, at one time so unpopular, by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, which, by a special resolution, required Middletown Lodge, No. 50, to obey the edicts of the Grand Lodge, in the matter of Brother Parker, by at once restoring him to *all* the privileges of membership in said Lodge, or that their charter be immediately arrested.' Notwithstanding the high authority which we concede to Brother Mackey, and to the Grand Lodge of Missouri, we think this action is against the Constitutions and Regulations of Ancient York Masonry, and against good policy and the genius of our Masonic institution, which regards harmony among the Craft a cardinal object.

"He notices the resolution of Florida 'calling a Convention of all the Lodges at Alligator in the month of May, for the purpose of agreeing upon an uniform system of work and lectures,' and says, 'To this

Convention I had the honor of being invited, and having, at the request of the body, exemplified the work, as long taught by me and practiced in this State, that system of work was unanimously adopted by the Convention as the work to be hereafter used in the jurisdiction of Florida.' The proceedings give no return of Lodges, or any other statistics.

M. W. Brother Alfred Price, Grand Master ; R. W. Brother Albert G. Mackey, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

"The Grand Lodge of Texas held its twenty-first annual communication, in the town of Waco, the 18th January, 1858. On a call of the roll, representatives from 108 Lodges answered. The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. The M. W. Grand Master's address was devoted to local matters. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Brother J. B. Likens, its chairman, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Lodges, among which we find the name of Florida, but we see nothing requiring particular notice. Ample statistical tables are published, but they give no *totals*. Returns from 165 chartered Lodges, and 2 U. D., are published, giving the names of officers and members, &c., but no summing up.

M. W. Brother James H. Hall was elected Grand Master ; and R. W. Brother A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

"The Grand Lodge of this State held its annual meeting in the city of Burlington, January 13th, 1858. Fourteen chartered Lodges were represented and three U. D. The address of M. W. Grand Master Tucker is long, and written with spirit and judgment. The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of 34 Grand Lodges, which they review in a scattering way. They present in their report a 'Tabular Statement of Masonic Statistics' of Grand Lodges, and the Grand Secretary publishes the returns from 43 Lodges, with the names of the officers and members, but no table of statistics.

"M. W. Brother Philip C. Tucker, Grand Master ; R. W. Brother John B. Hallenbuk, Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

"The only proceedings we have received from Virginia is a report of a special Grand communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the city of Richmond, on the 22d day of February, 1858, on the occasion of the dedication of the Washington Monument in that city, with a lithographic copy of the monument. M. W. John S. Caldwell presided, and delivered an address, suitable to the occasion, to a very large assemblage of the Fraternity and visitors from sister Grand Lodges, among

whom we recognize the name of our M. W. Grand Master, who was among the honored guests, and participated in the ceremonies of the day in the dedication of a monument erected by the people of the Old Dominion to the Father of his country, on the base of which stood the statue of his honored grandfather, the immortal Patrick Henry, by the side of Jefferson, and with whom are places provided for the statues of Marshall, Nelson, Mason, and Lewis—noble compatriots and brothers. What a glorious privilege it was for the grand-son of that truly great man and Mason to be present on that occasion.

“Devout prayers were offered to the Throne of Grace by the Right Rev. Grand Chaplain, and several eloquent addresses were made. We will offer no apology for the following extract from the oration delivered by the R. W. Grand Orator, P. G. M. Brother Robert G. Scott :

“‘It were hopeless to expect that the best would ever equal this pure and admirable preceptor—but all may profit by his example. And so, thanks be to an all-wise Providence, I here boldly pronounce, has been the name of WASHINGTON, in the history of our country. Dead though he be, entombed now for more than fifty years, the magic spell of his name, his counsel and his deeds, are often controlling in the affairs of our beloved country. In his case, “the dead do govern, and the living do obey.” It is through his magic name, the good, the wise, the patriotic,—the mighty dead, whose model life has never ceased to influence and mainly direct the destiny of this great people.

“‘The obedience of the living has been, when the times of trial have arisen, never yet withheld. This is a higher, far higher offering to the memory of the ever-to-be loved and admired man, than any frail statue, chiseled out or perfected by the most accomplished artist. Let us, then, here to-day, on this the anniversary of the birthday of this wonderful man, in the presence of this assemblage of thousands, under this bright sun, and before our country and our God, each for himself solemnly determine never to put aside the teachings or condemn the practice of him to honor whom that statue has been by the devotion of Virginia here erected.

“‘Then we shall give perpetuity to his heroic example ; have secured the fruits of his incessant toil and labor, his self-denial, his wisdom, and his patriotism. Then shall we for all time have guaranteed the inestimable blessings of permanent and just good government. Then shall we crush out all strife and faction, and advance peace and kindness among our people. Then shall we perfectly enjoy all that his patriotism had designed and his wisdom had offered to bless his countrymen. But I must turn from this theme : its fullness and its richness I leave to your intelligence to exhaust.

“‘With us of the Masonic Order, it is a subject of sincere satisfaction, that the designers of this finished and beautiful statue should have associated with Washington so many others, bright lights of Masonry.

Among them, none can be more honored than the names of *Marshall*, of *Lewis*, and of *Nelson*—the great jurist and the gallant soldiers. Of *Henry*, and *Jefferson*, and *Mason*, none speak but with reverence, admiration, and love—all were first in different characters.

“*Henry*, whose burning eloquence stirred up the zeal and indignation of his countrymen against the authority of an oppressive government—*Jefferson*, whose prudent counsel and vast foresight made him the Nestor of the patriots of our revolutionary times ; *Mason*, the accomplished and stern Senator, who never failed in faithfulness to his country and her people ; and *Lewis*, the great pioneer and captain, in the conquest of the vast western domain of Virginia, and the tried and confidential friend of Washington, with *Marshall* and *Nelson*, all cluster on this lovely structure, around him who in the past has had no equal, and never will have an equal in all time to come.

“*Marshall* and *Nelson* are freshly remembered, as our good and trusty brothers. Many of us have seen the manly form of the first mingling in our Lodges, marching in our processions, and with the kindness and softness which ever distinguished him, associating with us all. Up to the time of his death, his steadfast adherence to our Order was as signal as his professional and judicial career had been brilliant. How justly proud should we all be, that our country has been so prolific in the production of so many and such good and great men, each performing his separate and distinct part, and all working in perfect harmony, to accomplish a common, a great, and a good end.

“No time in the history of man has ever given at once such a galaxy of honesty, virtue, patriotism and wisdom, as that in which lived the seven, whose statues are to adorn this monument.

“But when we shall have completed our work here, when *Marshall*, and *Nelson*, and *Mason*, and *Lewis* shall find their places beneath Washington, with *Henry* and *Jefferson*, and all shall be done which human skill can do, to perfect this great work of art, our hearts yearn for something more than this. It is but the first step of duty and of gratitude. The ashes of Washington repose unhonored on the banks of the Potomac. Misfortune or vice may place them beyond the reach of our people, and make them the property of the unprincipled and avaricious. Let no such national disgrace dishonor us. While we gather around this statue, and lift up our voices in praise of the memory of this benefactor of our country, we shall give the best evidence of the sincerity of our professions by saving his grave and his remains from the ruthless possession and enjoyment of the avaricious speculator. Come, then, and with one heart and mind and soul, and an undivided sentiment, and proclaim now, here on this altar, that the Tomb of Washington shall be saved. Nobly have the ladies of Virginia and the South begun the work. Cheerfully and most liberally have they been sustained by many in the North and East. Gloriously have

you, my good, and old, and beloved brothers of Virginia, come in with your aid and proffered a scheme, which I here predict will save Mount Vernon, as the holy resting place of Washington, for generations to come.'

WISCONSIN.

"The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at the city of Milwaukee, on the 8th day of June, 1858. The committee on Credentials reported 74 Lodges represented, and 18 U. D., to whom subsequently charters were ordered. The Grand Lodge was opened in **AMPLE FORM**. The address of the Grand Master was confined to local affairs. The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, at the head of which is a list of the names of 32 Grand Lodges, in which is Florida, whose proceedings, giving dates and pages, the latter of which amount to 5,098 pages, reported upon briefly—a pretty considerable matter for employment, but, from the brief notice taken of them, we are disposed to think not much labor had been expended. We find in the proceedings a tabular statement of 76 Lodges reported. Totals: Master Masons, 2,907; Fellow Crafts, 149; Entered Apprentices, 290; initiated, 606; deaths, 31; dimitted, 220; expelling reported, 82; suspended, 92, and of Lodge dues, \$2,988 40.

"Elected M. W. Luther M. Tracy, Grand Master; R. W. John Warner Hunt, Grand Secretary.

"In conclusion, the chairman of this committee regrets that he is compelled to acknowledge that this report is not prepared with the care and attention he would desire, and the importance of the subjects treated of demand; and for apology he would respectfully name the facts, that he was absent from the State until late in the fall, and had, after his return, but a few weeks to examine and report upon the very large amount of Masonic matter which had been received since the last Grand annual communication; and that he is also the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Chapter, whose Grand annual convocation is at the same time,—and the correspondence of both Grand bodies averaging over fifty volumes of more than six thousand pages—whilst the labors of these two committees have been so greatly augmented during the last ten or twelve years of his chairmanship, his ability to perform them has gradually declined under the accumulation of years; and will not only entitle him to your charitable forbearance, but will suggest to you the necessity of appointing some other brother, who has more efficiency, physically and mentally, for the discharge of the duties of chairman of this important committee.

"All of which is most respectfully submitted,

"THOS. BROWN, *Chairman.*"

The Craft were called to refreshment until seven o'clock, P. M.

SEVEN o'clock, P. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as in the forenoon.

The Grand Lecturer, Bro. Holland, made the following report, which was unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to the Right Worshipful Brother :

REPORT OF THE GRAND LECTURER.

" To the M. W. THOMAS Y. HENRY, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida :

*" MOST WORSHIPFUL :—*I have the honor to report that I have officially visited the following Lodges during the fiscal year, to wit: Jackson Lodge, No. 1, at Tallahassee; Washington Lodge, No. 2, at Quincy; Harmony Lodge, No. 3, at Mariana; Franklin Lodge, No. 6, at Apalachicola; Escambia Lodge, No. 15, at Pensacola; Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16, at Milton; Gee Lodge, No. 21, at Chatahoochee; Naval Lodge, No. 24, at Warrentown, and Concordia Lodge, No. 28, in Gadsden county, and beg leave to state that it was not within my power to visit other Lodges. I would respectfully call the attention of the Grand Master to a separate report of each Lodge :

*" Jackson Lodge, No. 1.—*In this Lodge I found the oldest and brightest Masons in the State, numbering among its members and officers Past Grand Masters Hayward, Taylor, Shine, and Brown. On my visit there was no work, but, instead of dispersing, as is the custom with the majority of our Lodges where there is no business before the Lodge, they were teaching those present and refreshing the minds of the forgetful, the M. W. Thomas Hayward and the Senior Warden *pro tem.* being engaged in the Entered Apprentices' Lecture. I cite this as worthy of the imitation of subordinate Lodges when they have no work before them. I conferred the Master's degree, at the request of the W. M. Thomas Hayward. Peace dwells in her borders, and the cause of Masonry is advanced materially by this Lodge.

*Washington Lodge, No. 2.—*Of this Lodge it will be sufficient to state that the Worshipful Master is Grand Master. I conferred the Fellow Craft degree in this Lodge, at the request of the Worshipful Master. This Lodge has opened a Masonic School under the charge of Brother Wm. M. Armstrong. I would bespeak for it the attention of the Craft, and ask that the subject be referred to a select committee.

*Harmony Lodge, No. 3.—*Few in number, but supported by wisdom, strength, and beauty. I lectured in this Lodge at the request of the Worshipful Master, and exemplified the work. There being three other Lodges in the same county, it is not to be expected that this Lodge can, while they are in existence, have many members; but I can most emphatically state, that they guard the interests of the Order,

preserve the landmarks with zealous care, and those who there learn are well taught.

"*Franklin Lodge, No. 6.*—This Lodge demands a more lengthy report to do it full and ample justice. I lectured by the request of the Worshipful Master John F. Benezet, on the duties of the officers and of the individual members that compose a Lodge, and was requested to rule on different points of Masonic jurisprudence, which I did as follows, subject to the ratification of the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge of Florida when it shall convene, and respectfully report the following rulings for your consideration :

"1st. That the Grand Lecturer or the Deputies possess no power '*ex-officio*' in a subordinate Lodge ; that the Worshipful Master is supreme, and that these officers cannot order or enforce any precept whatever, except where they by authority convey an edict. In that case, it becomes the duty of the Worshipful Master to have such edict enforced ; *but he only obeys the edict*, and not the Grand Lecturer.

"2nd. That the Grand Lecturer, or the Deputy Grand Lecturers, were not entitled to remuneration or compensation for traveling expenses, or for lecturing to any subordinate Lodge, there being no edict of the Grand Lodge that a subordinate Lodge should pay these officers ; that it was their duty to attend the subordinate Lodge without fee or the hope of reward, as the law was silent on the subject ; and if the Grand Lodge had intended that those officers should be paid, she would have so declared.

"3d. That while a Lodge is open, on no account can the three Great Lights, or either of them, be taken outside of the Lodge.

"4th. That a Lodge cannot appear in public as such to celebrate any day, or do any work, or form any public possession, without first obtaining a dispensation from the Grand Master, *except* it be to bury a brother with Masonic honors.

"5th. That when the application of a person for initiation is made and deposited in the hands of a committee, it is their duty to make, as *promptly* as the case will admit, a *thorough and searching inquiry*, and report accordingly.

"6th. That all applicants for initiation, passing, and raising come subject to the pleasure of the Lodge. Each comes and receives the degree he seeks *when the Lodge sees proper to confer it on him* ; that the Worshipful Master is the proper person to say what candidate *shall come first*, or *when he shall come*. He, being the master workman, is the proper person to assign each stone its *position* and *when* it shall be placed in the edifice ; that fault finding by the applicant on this subject in any unbecoming language or in anger, after being duly admonished, is sufficient cause to arrest further advancement of the applicant until the cause is atoned for *as applicants have no rights in advance*.

"7th. That it is gross unmasonic conduct for a member of a Lodge to communicate to a new member all the proceedings of the Lodge *prior to his being raised* ; more especially if the new made member has once been rejected, or his case deferred or laid over for explanations at any time. To inform any member of any objection made to him, or by whom made, is *gross unmasonic conduct*, as it would necessarily destroy the cement of harmony. *Such new brother can only be entitled to know what appears on the records.*

"8th. That none but the Worshipful Master can vouch for one to be a Master Mason, unless the brother vouching has sat in a Lodge with the visitor, or has had *legal information directly* from a brother who has sat in a Lodge with *him* who asks admittance ; for the effect of a contrary rule would be, that any brother, whether *he himself was qualified to examine or not*, could vouch for another.

"I have the pleasure to report, that this Lodge has a charity fund approximating to \$800, which is not to be disbursed until it amounts to \$1,000, and then the *corpus* of the fund is not to be distributed, but only the interest devoted to charities. The ordinary charities are drawn by individual voluntary subscriptions of the members. They are also using all the efforts proper for them in the education of the orphans of deceased brethren who require it, and whom their means will justify in educating. The present Master, and the Past Masters, Benezet, Taylor and May, are most zealous, active Masons, and, owing to their endeavors, Franklin Lodge has reached a high pinnacle of Masonic excellence. They have a most valuable collection of Masonic literature—perhaps the largest in the State—and I am satisfied they are well versed in the adornments as well as in the architecture of the Order. The attendance, while I was present, was large. The furniture and regalia is of excellent character. Each applicant for passing or raising *prior to being ballotted for*, is examined *in open Lodge* by the Worshipful Master before the whole Lodge. This examination includes a very full and thorough inquiry into his knowledge of *the lecture and all the parts* of the degree of which he is the recipient, and, unless he is *well versed* therein and *readily answers*, his advancement is postponed.

"This course ruled subject to your approval, to be the true meaning of the 8th section of the 5th article of the Constitution, and have so lectured in all the Lodges I visited.

"Each degree is conferred in this Lodge with the utmost solemnity ; the Masonic Order is perpetuated in its purity, and each portion of their work will stand the *square, the level, and the plumb* of the Craft.

"*Escambia Lodge, No. 15.*—I lectured in this Lodge on the general duties of Masons, and on such points as my attention was called to by Brother J. Knowles Worshipful Master. These had been decided before by this Grand Lodge. The furniture and regalia of this Lodge is of fine quality ; the members are punctual to their duties. The officers

thoroughly qualified, through the labors of the Worshipful Master. A prosperous Lodge is Escambia, and deserves to rank high in the Order. The Lodge does not work in the summer months, except in emergencies. They are good and true Masons.

"*Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 16.*—In this Lodge I also lectured. It meets in a very fine frame building, and cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000. The Lodge and Chapter were robbed of between five and seven hundred dollars. They have asked to be relieved of their dues to the Grand Lodge up to last year, and I respectfully suggest the propriety of granting their prayer. I hope at this session it may receive the attention of the Grand Lodge. These brethren, far away in the west, are yet near to us in heart. The edicts, rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge they obey. The various duties of the Craft I saw *were well performed by them*. The furniture and regalia of this Lodge is second to none in the State. Its members rank morally and socially high; and the flourishing state of Masonry in their jurisdiction, after the bitter persecution it there received, is owing to the fact, that those brethren not only *teach* but *practice* Masonry unadulterated.

"There is a flourishing Academy attached to the Lodge which is well attended.

"*Gee Lodge, No. 21.*—This Lodge is on the dividing line of Gadsden and Jackson counties, and owing to its locality, cannot compete with many of her sister Lodges. I lectured and exemplified the work in this Lodge, and gave them the same ruling on the 8th section of the 5th article of the Constitution, which resulted in two applicants for the Fellow Craft's degree and two for the Master's being all *refused advancement* until they had made suitable proficiency. Gee Lodge in thus acting has, in my belief, done more good to Masonry than if she had received many members. The funds of the Lodge have not permitted the brethren to erect and furnish a lodge-room as good as they would wish.

"*Naval Lodge, No. 24.*—William Morrill, Worshipful Master. In this Lodge I lectured at the request of the Worshipful Master, and witnessed him confer the Entered Apprentice degree, His work, like the *white leather apron*, was 'more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle.' His Lodge showeth the handiwork of 'the master builder.' In it I saw much to admire,—amongst others, the records were correctly and well kept; a charity-box that *felt* as if bountiful hearts had therein deposited for the needy,—a school below the Lodge where the Masonic orphan is taught, so that he, when to manhood grown, might be also worthy to a seat in the place that his dead father had sat in, and witness that 'hieroglyphic bright' which the dead craftsman—the orphan's father—saw while he was yet a babe.

"*Concordia Lodge, No. 28.*—I lectured and exemplified the work in this Lodge; Past Grand Master Call being present. This Lodge is in

a flourishing condition. The attendance was the largest I had witnessed during the year. Brotherly love prevailed. Its good effects are evident in the brotherhood. The duty of affording education to the Masonic orphan was forcibly and eloquently presented to them by Past Grand Master Call, and the Lodge went to work at once, to carry out this philanthropic plan. I most heartily pronounce Concordia Lodge as a subordinate Lodge of high character and worthy of the commendation, 'well done, good and faithful servant.'

"Prosperity and blessing attend the Order wherever I have gone. The Western Lodges, far removed from the capital, have not had that justice done to their merits that a more close connection with them would have given, and which their character demands. I will be rewarded sufficiently if my visit to them will effect this in any manner. Everywhere that my steps have gone I have found the evergreen tree of Masonry shooting its roots downward into the hearts and affections of the Craft, and bearing its fruit upward to the Great Architect of the Universe. Thus have I found the Craft in Florida active, zealous, well-informed Masons, striving to advance the glory of the Order, and recognizing in the labors the overshadowing power of Him who said *sit Lux; et Lux fuit*.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"D. P. HOLLAND, *Grand Lecturer*."

The Grand Lodge went into election for Grand Officers, when

- M. W. THOS. HAYWARD was duly elected Grand Master.
- R. W. D. C. DAWKINS was duly elected Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. JAS. M. BAKER was duly elected Grand Senior Warden.
- R. W. A. CROMARTIE was duly elected Grand Junior Warden.
- R. W. JNO. B. TAYLOR was unanimously elected Grand Secretary.
- R. W. DAVID S. WALKER was unanimously elected Grand Treasurer.
- R. Rev. JNO. PENNY was unanimously elected Grand Chaplain.

Called to refreshment until ten o'clock A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present as before, with a due representation, &c.

Bro. Thos. Hayward, Grand Master-elect, was then duly installed as the M. W. Grand Master, by Thos. Y. Henry, Past Grand Master.

The special committee made the following report :

"The special committee appointed on the publication of the compiled proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, have examined the report of Brother Brown on that subject, and beg leave to report that they regard the subject as of great and vital importance, and think that the interests of Masonry in Florida demand the *immediate* publi-

cation of the work, compiled with so much labor and research and at the expense of so much valuable time of our beloved and venerated Past Grand Master Brown, if the funds can be provided for the purpose—Therefore,

Resolved, That we have 500 copies published, and that Past Grand Master Brown be, and he is hereby authorized and respectfully solicited to attend to the business as soon as possible.

“JOHN PENNY,
“J. L. MEACHAM,
“G. M. HOUSTON.”

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare and report a new Constitution for the Grand Lodge of Florida and present the same at the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge, to be submitted to the subordinate Lodges for their approval and adoption.

On motion, the Grand Lodge resolved to attend the funeral of Bro. J. R. Lloyd.

The Craft were called to refreshment until ten o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

FRIDAY, January 14, ten o'clock, A. M.

The Craft were called to labor.

Grand Officers present :

M. W. THOS. HAYWARD, Grand Master.
R. W. E. R. IVES, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. H. I. STEWART, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. GEO. F. BALTZELL, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. JNO. B. TAYLOR, Grand Secretary.
R. Rev. JNO. PENNY, Grand Chaplain.
W. A. J. SMILEY, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAS. DEWITT, Grand Junior Deacon.
Brother GEO. DAMON, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters BROWN and CALL, with a due representation.

On motion, G. M. Thos. Hayward, Past Grand Master Thos. Brown, and Past Grand Master Jno. B. Taylor, were constituted a committee to prepare and report a new Constitution for this Grand Lodge.

After the usual orders, the Grand Lodge of Florida was then closed in AMPLE FORM.

THOMAS HAYWARD, *Grand Master*.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, *Grand Secretary*.

CONVENTION
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GRAND LODGE AND CONSTITUTION, AT
JACKSON LODGE, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, JULY 5TH,
A. L. 5830, A. D. 1830.

—
JOHN P. DUVAL, *President of the Convention.*
THOMAS MUNROE, *Secretary.*
 —

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.

M. W. John P. Duval,*	1830-31	M. W. Jesse Coe,	1840-47
M. W. Robert Butler,		M. W. Jos. B. Lancaster,	1848
M. W. James W. Exum,*	1833	M. W. Thomas Brown,	1849
M. W. Jesse Coe,	1834-35	M. W. Richard K. Call,	1850
M. W. Isham G. Searcy,*	1836	M. W. Thomas Douglas,*	1851
M. W. Henry Gee,*	1837	M. W. Sam. B. Stephens,	1852
M. W. L. A. Thompson,	1838	M. W. Thomas Hayward,	1853-54
M. W. John B. Taylor,	1839	M. W. R. A. Shine,	1855-56
M. W. T. Y. Henry, 1857-58			

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. James W. Exum,*	1830-32	R. W. Harry R. Taylor,	1845-46
R. W. Thomas Brown,	1833	R. W. R. A. Shine,	1847
R. W. Isham G. Searcy,*	1834-35	R. W. Sam. S. Sibley,	1848
R. W. Henry Gee,*	1836	R. W. Thomas Douglas,*	1849-50
R. W. John P. Duval, (decl.)	1837	R. W. D. S. Graham,	1851
R. W. L. A. Thompson, (vice)	1837	R. W. C. A. M. Mitchell,	1852
R. W. John B. Taylor,	1838	R. W. Gad. Humphreys,	1853
R. W. Daniel L. Kenan,*	1839-40	R. W. Samuel Boardman,	1854
R. W. Thomas Hayward,	1841	R. W. Samuel Benezet,	1855
R. W. John B. Taylor,	1842-43	R. W. E. C. Ives,	1856
R. W. Jos. B. Lancaster,	1844	R. W. J. M. Baker,	1857

PAST GRAND SENIOR WARDENS.

R. W. John Lines,*	1830-31	R. W. R. A. Shine,	1844
R. W. John P. Booth,	1832-33	R. W. Elijah Bryan,	1845
R. W. James W. Exum,*	1834-35	R. W. Benj. F. Nourse,	1846
R. W. L. A. Thompson,	1836	R. W. George F. Baltzell,	1847-48
R. W. John B. Taylor,	1837	R. W. Tho. Jeff. Heir,*	1849
R. W. Daniel L. Kenan,*	1838	R. W. D. S. Graham,	1850
R. W. Harry R. Taylor,	1839-40	R. W. J. M. W. Davidson,	1851
R. W. Banks Meacham,	1841	R. W. Samuel Boardman,	1852-53
R. W. T. P. Randolph,*	1842	R. W. C. C. Fletcher,	1854
R. W. C. S. Crosland,	1843	R. W. F. C. Barret,	1855-56
R. W. D. W. McRanie,* 1857			

* Deceased.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS.

R. W. Henry Gee,* ●	1831	R. W. James L. Finley,	1846
R. W. Godfrey Stephens,*	1832-33	R. W. Samuel B. Stephens,	1847
R. W. Isaac Nathans,	1834-35	R. W. Thos. Jefferson Heir,*	1848
R. W. John B. Taylor,	1836	R. W. Samuel Benezet,	1849
R. W. Daniel L. Kenan,	1837	R. W. Joseph B. Lancaster,*	1850
R. W. Harry R. Taylor,	1838	R. W. Samuel Boardman,	1851
R. W. A. J. Dozier,	1839	R. W. Francis I. Wheaton,	1852
R. W. Banks Meacham,	1840	R. W. Walker Anderson,	1853
R. W. Elijah Bryan,	1841	R. W. James Ellenwood,	1854
R. W. C. D. Croeland,	1842	R. W. William H. James,	1855
R. W. Richard A. Shine,	1843	R. W. F. R. Pittman,	1856
R. W. Elijah Bryan,	1844	R. W. G. M. Houstoun,	1857
R. W. George W. McCrae,	1845	R. W. Henry I. Stewart,	1858

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FLORIDA :

President **ANDREW JACKSON**, Past Grand Master Grand Lodge of Tennessee, January 13, 1823. Governor **JOHN H. EATON**, 12th January, 1835.

* Deceased

RETURNS OF LODGES

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

JACKSON LODGE, No. 1.—TALLAHASSEE.

OFFICERS :

Thomas Hayward, *Worshipful Master*.
 John S. Bond, *Senior Warden*.
 James S. Rust, *Junior Warden*.
 Robert Heir, *Treasurer*.

Hugh A. Corley, *Secretary*.
 T. P. Tatum, *Senior Deacon*.
 John R. Lloyd, *Junior Deacon*.
 George Damon, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

John B. Taylor, *Past Grand Master*.
 Thomas Brown, *Past Grand Master*.
 R. A. Shine, *Past Grand Master*.
 Isaac W. Bowen, *Past Master*.
 Charles E. Dyke, *Past Master*.
 S. S. Knight, *Past Master*.
 George W. Scott, *Master Mason*.
 A. F. Hayward,
 Benjamin C. Lewis,
 D. Walker Gwynn,
 J. Wayles Baker,
 W. H. Newsom,
 Joseph Clisby,
 E. L. T. Blake,
 Thomas White,
 William Fisher, Jr.,
 Hugh T. Fisher,
 Alfred A. Fisher,
 Inman H. Fisher,
 M. Grandy,
 Thurston Boswell,
 William E. Boswell,
 David E. Mason,
 William Bloxham,
 John Pratorious,
 William Germany,
 B. Williams,

Robert C. Williams,
 Matthew Lively,
 Lucian S. Duval,
 John P. Duval,
 Wm. K. Beard,
 Francis H. Flagg,
 Carey B. Gamble,
 Edward Gamble,
 Perez B. Brokaw,
 John L. Demilly,
 J. C. Hall,
 James M. Shine,
 John M. Hill,
 Joseph A. Edmondson,
 T. W. Brevard, Jr.,
 Thomas J. Rawls,
 David S. Walker,
 Joseph H. Alston,
 Joseph Weber,
 Thomas B. Barefoot,
 William G. Poole,
 R. M. Quinn,
 Benjamin C. Burgess, *Fellow Craft*,
 P. Houstoun, *Entered Apprentice*,
 George K. Clark, *Entered Apprentice*,
 W. H. Bayley, *Master Mason*.

Initiated, 6 ; rejected, 2 ; 'expelled, 1 ; died, 1 ; dues, \$64. Regular meetings, first and third Saturdays in each month.

WASHINGTON LODGE, No. 2.—QUINCY.

OFFICERS :

T. Y. Henry, *W. Master & Grand Master*,
 D. L. Kenan, *Senior Warden*,
 Wm. Munroe, *Junior Warden*,
 C. A. Gee, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. P. Scott, *Junior Deacon*,

R. F. Jones, *Secretary*,
 O. E. McKeon, *Chaplain*,
 T. B. Nathans, *Treasurer*,
 M. S. Bray, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

S. B. Stephens, <i>P. Master & P. G. Master,</i>	J. W. Olliver,
J. M. W. Davidson, <i>P. M. & P. G. S. Warden,</i>	James C. Evans,
J. B. Harris, <i>Past Master,</i>	James A. Byrd,
Isaac Nathans,	Wm. M. Campbell,
D. P. Holland, <i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	C. Burghardt,
T. E. Gibson,	M. Burghardt,
B. H. Munroe,	J. H. Keadle,
D. T. Wilson,	Charles Wallar,
P. M. Fleishman,	Joseph R. Lines,
F. A. Fleishman,	Thomas S. Potts,
James M. Smith,	J. W. Booth,
J. N. Maige,	N. D. Zeiglar,
Wm. T. Peebles,	Hezekiah Pitts,
James Gee,	R. S. Tucker,
Sherod McCall,	J. G. Owens,
Joseph Milligan, Jr.,	

HARMONY LODGE, No. 3.—MARIANA.

OFFICERS :

F. R. Pittman, <i>Worshipful Master,</i>	G. F. Baltzell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Benjamin F. Parker, <i>Senior Warden,</i>	John Tanner, <i>Senior Deacon,</i>
A. R. Godwin, <i>Junior Warden,</i>	C. C. C. Sullivan, <i>Junior Deacon,</i>
J. P. Lockey, <i>Treasurer,</i>	H. C. King, <i>Tyler.</i>

MEMBERS :

Charles Sims, <i>Master Mason,</i>	L. McClung,
C. C. Cobb,	James F. McClellan,
M. N. Dickson,	Allen H. Bush,
Benjamin G. Alderman,	Solomon Sullivan,
Horace Ely,	John T. Webb,
N. O. J. Staley,	Joseph J. Moore,
W. J. K. Kinsey,	John A. Sims,
Henry O. Bassett,	N. A. Long,
N. M. Skipper,	Walter C. Harris,
Wm. S. Wilson,	Jesse J. Finley,
Wm. H. Milton,	James L. Robinson,
A. L. Riviere,	John W. Johnston,
John T. Russ,	R. C. B. Laurence.

Initiations, 2 ; died, 1 ; Grand Lodge dues, \$30. Regular meetings on the first Saturday and Friday nights before the third Saturday in each month.

HIRAM LODGE, No. 5.—MONTICELLO.

OFFICERS :

James Ellenwood, <i>Worshipful Master,</i>	J. H. Lamb, <i>Senior Deacon,</i>
James A. Cooksey, <i>Senior Warden,</i>	J. R. Atkinson, <i>Junior Deacon,</i>
J. J. Walker, <i>Junior Warden,</i>	B. S. Fuller, <i>Chaplain,</i>
Owin Lewis, <i>Treasurer,</i>	W. H. Andrews, <i>Tyler.</i>
T. J. Chace, <i>Secretary,</i>	

MEMBERS :

J. Aldrich,
 John Braden,
 Wiley Barwick,
 H. H. Berry,
 Solomon Hassel,
 S. W. Baker,
 K. L. Berry,
 W. Blalock,
 R. E. Brooking,
 J. Bailey,
 W. C. Clark,
 J. F. Carter,
 A. D. Cone,
 W. S. Dilworth,
 W. Dawkins,
 Joseph L. Dutton,
 D. M. Donnell,
 David Dilk,
 Calvin Davis,
 Franklin Faglie,
 Wm. Flowers,
 Robert Potts,
 W. O. Girardeau,
 Charles B. DeCaussey,
 George Heitz,
 John A. Hallman,
 John J. Hinton,
 John Hale,
 J. C. Lee,
 Thomas O. Oder,
 Charles E. Johnson,
 Thomas F. Johnson,
 Andrew J. Lea,
 Daniel T. Lingo,
 James D. Morris,
 Wm. McMillan,
 Joel Morris,
 Harman Morris,
 John McMullin,
 James McMullin,
 Alfred H. McCann,
 James S. Russell,
 Thomas W. Ramsey,
 G. J. Streety,
 Robert Scott,
 Joshua Taylor,

H. C. Tison,
 Joseph O. Taylor,
 John Ulmer,
 John Wooten,
 William J. Woods,
 Joel Walker,
 Henry Walker,
 E. C. Windham,
 David Walker,
 John K. Williams,
 Josiah Drew,
 Francis A. Munroe,
 Andrew J. Miller,
 Henry M. Hurst,
 Abram H. Wilford,
 William B. Clark,
 Christian Bliss,
 David W. Carn,
 Theodore Turnbull,
 J. S. Burton,
 J. L. Dozier,
 James R. Tucker,
 H. G. McClellan,
 Joseph Cardy,
 George S. Golden,
 A. J. Whitehurst,
 M. G. W. Jordan,
 Craven Atkinson,
 B. A. Bobo,
 W. C. Bird,
 Isham R. Walker,
 James M. Bozemore,
 Wm. M. Footman,
 Wm. H. Whitehurst,
 G. F. Morris,
 Turner Hay,
 G. D. McCall,
 Pickens B. Bird,
 W. H. M. Scruggs,
 E. R. Randolph,
 Daniel B. Bird,
 F. A. Dawkins,
 Wm. E. Hamilton,
 Samuel C. Craft,
 Samuel Woodberry.

FRANKLIN LODGE, No. 6.—APALACHICOLA.

OFFICERS :

John F. Benezet, <i>Worshipful Master</i> ,	G. M. Cohen, <i>Senior Deacon</i> ,
S. J. Whiteside, <i>Senior Warden</i> ,	G. Sinclair, <i>Junior Deacon</i> ,
R. L. Harrison, <i>Junior Warden</i> ,	C. Thigpin, }
J. S. May, <i>Treasurer & Past Master</i> ,	W. E. Coe, } <i>Stewards</i> ,
W. D. Maclay, <i>Secretary</i> ,	O. Crawford, <i>Tyler</i> .

MEMBERS :

H. R. Taylor, <i>Past Master and P. D. Grand Master</i> ,	John D. Atkins,
S. Benezet, <i>Past Master and P. D. Grand Master</i> ,	William Marr,
Thomas Mathews,	Francis Thompson,
Thomas J. Eppes,	W. S. Wingfield,
William T. Orman,	William Austin,
J. N. Cummings,	H. K. Simmons,
James J. Griffin,	Solomon Gump,
Daniel Fry,	John B. Elton,
Henry C. Swain,	Braddock Williams,
Robert Myers,	Jacob Schwarz,
George S. Hawkins,	Ler Fort,
Andrew Cordson,	John Richards,
Wm. R. Ruan,	John F. Sweet,
George Redgate,	E. H. Warren,
	R. D. Munn,
	H. F. Abell.

MADISON LODGE, No. 11.—MADISON.

OFFICERS :

Joshua B. Coffee, <i>Worshipful Master</i> ,	J. H. Ogden, <i>Junior Deacon</i> ,
James L. Mosely, <i>Senior Warden</i> ,	W. P. Moseley, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
E. H. Bunker, <i>Junior Warden</i> ,	S. H. Bunker, <i>Secretary</i> ,
J. H. Bryan, <i>Senior Deacon</i> ,	J. F. Webb, <i>Tyler</i> .

MEMBERS :

T. M. Anderson, <i>Past Master</i> ,	B. C. Pope, <i>Past Master</i> ,
J. W. Anderson,	J. Platt,
W. E. Bryan, <i>Past Master</i> ,	E. H. Richards,
C. C. Coffee,	W. Rodgers, <i>Past Master</i> ,
L. A. Church,	Robert H. Shaffer,
H. Dewey,	D. J. Sutton,
John Flowers,	Ira Swift,
Ephraim Flowers,	D. P. Smith,
Rev. E. D. Gornto, <i>Past Master</i> ,	Benjamin Schwirne, <i>Past Master</i> ,
Thomas Langford,	Joseph Townsend,
T. J. Livingston,	E. J. Vann,
T. A. Livingston,	N. P. Willard,
D. F. Livingston,	J. Wyche,
D. F. Martin,	J. B. Watts,
Alexander McDonald, <i>Past Master</i> ,	W. W. Whitlock,

J. L. Miller,
 L. M. Moseley, *Past Master*,
 W. R. Moore,
 Benjamin W. McCall,
 W. J. McDaniel,
 Thomas McMullen,
 Wm. P. Moseley, *Past Master*,
 J. H. Ogden,
 Rev. W. P. Ocain,

S. R. White,
 Alfred Williams,
 M. D. McLeod,
 B. M. Gilder,
 E. W. Vann,
 T. A. Perry,
 ——— Lyons,
 D. L. Kennedy.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 12.—ST. AUGUSTINE.

OFFICERS :

G. J. Zehnbauner, *Worshipful Master*,
 J. Usina, *Senior Warden*,
 M. R. Andrué, *Junior Warden*,
 J. S. Phillips, *Secretary*,

Paul Arnou, *Treasurer*,
 James M. Gould, *Senior Deacon*,
 B. Pacetti, Jr., *Junior Deacon*,
 J. W. Swenny, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

G. Humphreys,
 John Dick,
 Joseph S. Andrué,
 B. E. Carr,
 James Hulbert,
 Douglas Dummett,
 Joseph Master,
 Ora Howard,
 Philip Gomez,

Benj. J. Starling,
 Pierre B. Mauran,
 Wm. Starling,
 Cristobal Bravo,
 Charles Hopkins,
 Peter Masters,
 Alfred Perpall,
 Joshua Blake.

DADE LODGE, No. 14.—KEY WEST.

OFFICERS :

L. M. Shafer, *Worshipful Master*,
 P. F. Fonatnee, *Senior Warden*,
 N. Smith, *Junior Warden*,
 C. Boye, *Secretary*,

G. S. Allen, *Treasurer*,
 F. Filer, *Senior Deacon*,
 G. G. Watson, *Junior Deacon*,
 H. Baldwin, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

A. F. Tift,
 P. T. Williams,
 Henry Williams,
 W. C. Cash,
 T. Pent,
 T. C. Skrine,
 John Williams,
 John Park,
 T. A. Johnson,
 W. H. Bethel,

W. A. Lowe,
 John Bartlum,
 P. Crusoe,
 W. Dummitt,
 W. Lowe,
 L. E. Pierce,
 M. McNamara,
 E. O. Gwynn,
 T. F. Packer,
 John Wilson.

ESCAMBIA LODGE, No. 15.—PENSACOLA.

OFFICERS :

James Knowles, *Worshipful Master*,
 Wm. Judah, *Senior Warden*,
 Michael Quigles, *Junior Warden*,
 A. R. Baker, *Secretary*,

Samuel McClelland, *Treasurer*,
 Alexander H. Bright, *Senior Deacon*,
 Wm. H. Baker, *Junior Deacon*,
 Antonio Collins, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

Jas. E. Simpson, *Past Master*,
 Wm. H. James,
 W. W. J. Kelly,
 G. G. Pattison,
 Henry Slayback,
 Dillon Jordan,
 C. P. Knapp,
 R. Morris Key,
 Joseph B. Vaughn,
 F. Christin,
 Wm. Mack,
 L. A. Jones.

William K. Knight,
 M. D. Hernandez,
 Alex. McVoy,
 Ira Smith,
 O. A. Jenkins,
 N. D. Spotswood,
 S. W. Huff,
 James Neal,
 Daniel D. Latham,
 William F. Lee,
 E. A. Perry.

SANTA ROSA LODGE, No. 16.—MILTON.

OFFICERS :

John Chain, *Worshipful Master*,
 W. W. Harder, *Senior Warden*,
 D. H. Golson, *Junior Warden*,
 C. W. Jones, *Secretary*,
 J. A. Chafin, *Treasurer*,

Thomas Butler, *Senior Deacon*,
 W. J. Armistead, *Junior Deacon*,
 C. D. Cushman, }
 J. R. Mimms, } *Stewards*,
 J. L. Crow, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

W. L. Criglar,
 W. W. Harrison,
 L. N. Amos,
 H. B. Farley,
 E. S. Amos,
 John Walston,
 G. D. Fisher,
 T. V. Mimms,
 Jeremiah Savill,
 J. M. Landrum,
 B. T. McDavid,
 Wyatt Franklin,
 M. McMillan,
 Austin Nickols,
 B. W. Thompson,
 R. Miller,
 John Wilkinson,
 Geo. Fercheimer,
 Nell McMillan,
 Milton Amos,

W. B. Amos,
 Joseph Mitchell,
 J. H. Williams,
 J. F. Hart,
 S. L. Hart,
 E. Whitmire,
 Jos. Gundersheimer,
 Louis Fischer,
 Stephen Roberts,
 Silas Jernigan,
 J. C. Julien,
 Isaiah Cobb,
 J. C. McArthur,
 J. C. Allen,
 Hugh Simmons,
 S. L. Hemphill,
 Wm. Burket,
 W. A. Bowen,
 J. R. Howell,
 William Mack.

UCHEEANNA LODGE, No. 17.—UCHEEANNA.

OFFICERS :

Wm. McDonald, *Worshipful Master*,
 David Vaughan, *Senior Warden*,
 J. K. McDonald, *Junior Warden*,
 Neal S. Gillis, *Secretary*,

A. C. Douglass, *Treasurer*,
 Enos Evans, *Senior Deacon*,
 S. L. Perkins, *Junior Deacon*,
 J. D. McSween, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

Jno. L. Campbell,
 D. P. McDonald,
 James Bowers,
 Charles McKinnon,
 D. K. McDonald,
 John Morrison,
 Alex. McLeod,
 Nell McCranie,
 Arey Campbell,
 J. L. McKinnon,
 Wm. McLeod,
 Jesse Evans,
 Neill McPherson,
 Neill P. Campbell,
 D. G. Gunn,
 W. G. Gunn,
 J. W. Bowers,
 A. D. McKinnon,
 M. H. Stanley,
 D. G. McLeod,
 A. G. McLeod,
 Neill L. McKinnon,
 James McLean,
 D. M. McLean,
 R. W. McCullum,
 James Evans,
 Malcom Gillis,
 Neill J. McKinnon,
 A. P. McDonald,

Giles Bowers,
 A. J. Howell,
 John McKenzie,
 Isaac Welch,
 W. S. C. Yonge,
 A. H. Brownell,
 Neill McLeod,
 E. D. Hewett,
 Wm. Williamson,
 W. C. Jemison, Jr.,
 D. L. Campbell,
 Thos. G. Broxson,
 Lauchlin McKinnon,
 R. R. Golden,
 John Barclay,
 L. D. McLean,
 Isham Walker,
 Moses Hewett,
 Wm. M. Sconiers,
 Rev. Jas. Lamiter,
 Henry Hewett,
 Dempsey Fennell,
 T. T. Parish,
 J. W. Barclay,
 D. W. Cranie,
 A. D. Gillis,
 A. C. Monroe,
 Chas. McKennon.

CENTREVILLE LODGE, No. 18.—CENTREVILLE.

OFFICERS :

J. B. Jeffcoat, *Worshipful Master*,
 W. J. Felkel, *Senior Warden*,
 H. J. Saunders, *Junior Warden*,
 J. J. Canon, *Secretary*,
 L. M. White, *Treasurer*,

Geo. H. Fisher, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. S. Havis, *Junior Deacon*,
 A. R. Combs,
 A. D. Grambling, } *Stewards*,
 L. D. Ballard, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

J. J. Barnes,
 Amos Lee,
 A. C. F. Blake,
 G. R. Saunders,

J. J. Felkel,
 John Cox,
 Henry Bradley,
 J. R. Havis,

W. S. Goodman.
 John Evans,
 P. K. Baum,
 Stephen Saunders,
 J. D. F. Houck, *Past Worshipful Master*,
 W. E. Fisher,
 J. H. Saunders,
 J. J. Dawkins,
 D. F. Hurger,
 J. L. Hart,
 C. C. Fletcher, *Past Worshipful Master*,
 R. W. Fisher,

J. L. Stroman,
 John Grambling,
 T. J. Roberts,
 James Pope,
 E. D. Stringer,
 G. W. Jeffcoat,
 Isham King,
 G. M. Green,
 M. W. Grambling,
 Bartley Brown,
 J. J. Williams,
 F. Fitts.

MARION LODGE, No. 19.—OCALA.

OFFICERS:

John Helvenston, *Worshipful Master*,
 Charles Slager, *Senior Warden*,
 D. M. Alfred, *Junior Warden*,
 R. P. McCants, *Secretary*,
 Daniel H. Wilson, *Treasurer*,

J. W. S. Crowson, *Senior Deacon*,
 T. Shemitylo, *Junior Deacon*,
 Wm. Connell, *Chaplain*,
 H. Alderman, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS:

R. W. Marston, *Past Master*,
 Josiah Paine, *Past Master*,
 W. S. Harris, *Past Master*,
 W. E. Alexander,
 S. G. Brown,
 A. C. Brown,
 J. P. Barco,
 H. Berlack,
 Stephen Barco,
 Thomas Barco,
 John F. Collins,
 W. L. Fletcher,
 H. B. Forbes,
 Allen Gibson,
 J. J. Gornato,
 W. J. M. Griner,
 Moses S. Gunter,
 Solomon Godwin,
 Ira H. Hardin,
 Falkner Heard,
 N. P. Hotchkiss,
 S. O. House,
 D. A. McDavid,
 H. E. Martin,
 L. B. Marsh,
 Rev. S. A. McCook,
 M. K. Pinkston,
 S. J. Ward,

S. St. Geo. Rogers,
 J. M. Robinson,
 C. S. Reynolds,
 John Scott,
 S. J. Standley,
 Simon Shelline.
 R. Crutchfield,
 Wiley Curry,
 J. W. Campbell,
 H. W. Dickson,
 J. A. Averitt,
 Neil Ferguson,
 Thos. Frink,
 F. N. Foy,
 Rev. W. T. Harrison,
 H. H. Hudgins,
 Lewis Levy,
 Fred. Meyer,
 Wm. A. McAteer,
 John Morrison,
 N. C. Morrison,
 J. W. Stephens,
 D. A. Vogt,
 A. Waterman,
 J. H. Wommock,
 J. H. Wadsworth,
 R. W. Tatum.

SOLOMON'S LODGE, No. 20.—JACKSONVILLE.

OFFICERS :

J. W. Bryant, *Past Master*,
 F. C. Barrett, *Past Master*,
 C. S. Emery, *Worshipful Master*,
 George Flagg, *Senior Warden*,
 A. T. Holyman, *Junior Warden*,
 E. A. Oak, *Treasurer*,

E. Gomez, *Secretary*,
 John W. Price, *Senior Deacon*,
 L. Shattuck, *Junior Deacon*,
 J. G. Haddock, }
 J. N. Haddock, } *Stewards*.

MEMBERS :

H. D. Holland,
 William Lema,
 John S. Sammis,
 Samuel Buffington,
 Henry H. Floyd,
 John Thompson,
 T. E. Buckman,
 George H. Smith,
 George Mooney,
 Charles Brown,
 J. L. Hogarth,
 J. D. McKinlay,
 John Clark,
 James Latimer,
 George W. Cole,
 Mark Alexander,
 Moses Curry,
 Caleb W. Williams,
 H. M. Sadler,
 James Livingston,
 William Grothe,
 John G. Butler,
 H. R. Sadler,
 B. Hopkins,
 Uriah Bowden,
 Miles Price,
 Samuel Fairbanks,
 John Stotz,
 E. Barra,
 Milton Haynes,
 A. W. DaCosta,
 M. Hearn,

M. W. Graves.
 J. V. Garnie,
 C. McFall,
 T. R. Webb,
 L. B. Slade,
 George C. Gibbs,
 Joseph D. Mitchell,
 Daniel L. Wight,
 William W. Hull,
 John C. Daniel,
 John C. Heming,
 T. Hartridge,
 Samuel Somers,
 Charles Willey,
 E. J. Johnson,
 James A. Pickett,
 Benjamin Wilson,
 J. B. D. Hanham,
 P. Dylinski,
 John A. Summerlin,
 John Roberts,
 R. R. Rushing,
 John S. Pickett,
 Phillip Fraser,
 A. Doggett,
 M. Bozeman,
 M. Erblick,
 A. E. Tibbats,
 Wm. A. McLean,
 J. P. Sanderson,
 Samuel B. Thompson.

GEE LODGE, No. 21.—CHATTAHOOCHEE.

MEMBERS :

H. A. Lanier,
G. Arnold,
J. B. Anderson,
Hector Bruce,
Wm. J. Hutchinson,
Wm. C. Rogers,
C. J. White,
B. C. A. Johnson,
H. Rogers,
W. W. Johnson,
A. B. Cook,
H. M. Spears,
Wm. Rogers,
J. D. Wilks,
Jesse Coe,
G. C. Bird,
Gospero Sweet,
Samuel Boardman,
R. Rankin,
A. McPhatter,
Alexander McPhaul,

R. A. Witherspoon,
G. W. Sunday,
Daniel McPhaul,
B. Whiddon,
R. M. Scarborough,
L. Griffin,
J. Sweet,
Joseph Tally,
E. E. White,
W. J. Atwater,
John A. Long,
W. L. Spears,
J. L. Jones,
D. McPherson,
T. M. Wilson,
J. M. Everett,
James S. Meacham,
T. M. Johnson,
R. L. Bird,
J. W. Goodson.

HAMILTON LODGE, No. 22.

MEMBERS :

J. J. Polhill,
John H. Baker,
A. Averitt,
George Connill,
M. M. Deas, Jr.,
James B. Creach,
Benjamin Lane,
William McHendry,
C. C. Williams,
Robert J. Bevill,
William T. Jennings,

John S. Purviance,
Daniel Mathews,
John Holwell,
Nathaniel J. Zeigler,
A. Purviance,
Henry Finch,
Thomas F. Wesson,
Solomon B. Smith,
James B. Tippet,
Lewis A. Folsom.

NEWPORT LODGE, No. 23.—NEWPORT.

OFFICERS :

W. M. Simmons, *Worshipful Master*,
John Morrison, *Senior Warden*,
W. Rutherford, *Junior Warden*,

M. McLean, *Secretary*,
James Caverly, *Treasurer*,
Thomas Blythe, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

G. W. Bostwick, *Chaplain*,
 S. A. Spencer, *Past Master*,
 James B. Carlisle, *Past Master*,
 W. McNaught, *Past Master*,
 James Ormond, *Past Master*,
 George Miller,
 A. T. Gavin,
 S. B. Richardson,
 G. O. West,
 R. W. B. Hodson,
 James Daniels,
 J. A. Barco,
 J. J. Allen,
 R. M. Spencer,
 A. M. Ferrill,
 P. L. Barrington,
 A. B. Noyes,
 B. Chaires, Sr.,
 T. J. M. Richardson,
 D. Richardson,
 W. J. Stewart,
 J. W. Skipper,

W. Branch,
 J. M. McBride,
 J. P. Carter,
 J. J. Tucker,
 R. F. Byrd,
 Wm. Blythe,
 W. C. Trice,
 Noah Posey,
 J. T. Herring,
 H. C. Gregory,
 W. T. Duval,
 C. E. Martin,
 W. W. Bevill,
 J. W. Smith,
 Thomas L. Shehee,
 R. A. Bradham,
 H. H. Walker,
 D. A. Telfair,
 M. Posey,
 G. W. Bradley,
 F. M. Williams,
 John L. Thomas.

NAVAL LODGE, No. 24.—WARRENTON.

MEMBERS :

Wm. Morrill,
 Thos. Stearns,
 George Genney,
 Thos. Devery,
 Amos Ross,
 D. Davidson,
 Geo. H. O'Neal,
 William Stearns,
 O. B. Faulkner,
 Joseph Ferreria,
 Wm. McMahon,
 George Smith,
 Wm. Pollock,
 George L. Brown,
 R. Sweetman,
 Robert Smith,
 Valtne Stuber,

J. R. Whaley,
 Robert Cassidy,
 P. J. Keanan,
 Edward Kelly,
 Josiah Hillard,
 Garrett Durland, *Junior Deacon*,
 Samuel Glass, *Tyler*,
 Edward Wall,
 James Doyle,
 William Kimble,
 Wm. L. Townsend,
 Robert Garrett,
 Wm. G. Batts,
 John Hoodkiss,
 James Walsh,
 Wm. F. Laskey.

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE, No. 25.—TAMPA.

OFFICERS:

J. Darling, *Worshipful Master*,
 J. T. Givins, *Senior Warden*,
 H. L. Mitchell, *Junior Warden*,
 E. A. Clarke, *Treasurer*,
 S. Mitchell, *Secretary*,

M. L. Shannahan, *Senior Deacon*,
 Joseph Robles, *Junior Deacon*,
 C. Q. Crawford, }
 D. Plumley, } *Stewards*,
 T. J. Kenney, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS:

J. Moore, *Past Grand Master*,
 D. A. Branch, *Past Master*,
 W. S. Abert,
 S. M. Brockway,
 R. D. Bradley,
 Henry Bethel,
 E. E. Barry,
 Joseph Casey,
 L. G. Cavacewich,
 John Fluin,
 Michael Finn,
 James Gettis,
 Daniel Gillett,
 J. K. Glover,
 S. Hollingsworth,
 W. R. Hollingsworth,
 Wm. B. Hooker,
 J. M. Hayman,
 J. B. Jackson,
 Edward Jones,
 A. Johnson,

Francis Ivy,
 E. T. Kendrick,
 W. A. Lively,
 Louis Lanier,
 J. P. McMullen,
 S. McCarty,
 W. H. McDonald,
 T. J. Mitchell,
 L. G. Olsen,
 J. M. Palmer,
 John Pearce,
 M. Post,
 J. S. Redbrook,
 J. L. Skipper,
 T. O. V. Snell,
 J. S. Turner,
 J. S. Taylor,
 W. J. Turner,
 R. B. Thomas,
 S. A. Wells.

ALACHUA LODGE, No. 26.—NEWNANSVILLE.

MEMBERS:

Stephen Fagan,
 L. M. Scarborough,
 G. U. Ellis,
 Thos. C. Love,
 Robert Bevan,
 B. Moody,
 Joseph S. Prevatt,
 John B. Cason,
 John B. Stanley,
 Geo. B. Ellis,
 Wm. Strickland,
 James C. Stanley,
 George W. Sanchez,
 Solomon F. Holliday,
 Henry Sapp,
 Archelos Hayne,
 James E. Harrison,
 J. W. Burnett,

Stephen W. Hogan,
 A. M. Caston,
 Peter W. Guinn,
 Thos. N. Peoples,
 Wm. H. Dowdy,
 Charles W. L. Stanley,
 Wiley Hicks,
 Henry W. Bradford,
 Roland Thomas,
 Isham B. Thomas,
 Simeon J. Sanchez,
 Robert R. Davis,
 Thomas A. Bradford,
 F. W. Strong,
 Silas Weeks,
 Asa Carn, Jr.,
 Joseph S. Warren,
 Daniel B. Coker,

B. T. Stakes,
Isaac Highsmith,
Henry M. Dickle,
John R. Bevill,
Elijah Barrow,

David W. Price,
John C. Hayne,
R. P. Lewis,
James G. Cason,
Emra P. Wane.

COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 27.—LAKE CITY.

OFFICERS :

Silas L. Niblack, *Worshipful Master*,
Green H. Hunter, *Senior Warden*,
F. McLeod, *Junior Warden*,
James W. Cathy, *Treasurer*,
James McNeill, *Secretary*,
G. M. Cline, *Senior Deacon*,

M. H. Freeze, *Junior Deacon*,
A. J. T. Wright, }
Alexander Young, } *Stewards*,
James C. Pearce, *Chaplain*,
W. C. Langston, *Tiler*.

MEMBERS :

E. R. Ives, <i>Past Master & D. Grand Master</i> ,	Abraham Ellinger,
James M. Baker, <i>District Grand Lecturer</i> ,	R. M. D. Peacock,
R. Brown, Sen.,	David B. Roberts,
A. A. Stewart,	B. F. Jourdan,
A. R. Bexley,	Kinsey Chambers,
Reuben Hogans,	R. H. Charles,
John L. Dozier,	Nathan E. Roberts,
Garret Vanzant,	Joseph Price,
Langley Bryant,	L. H. Natair,
Martin Hancock,	Benjamin Bell,
Richard Hurt,	A. J. Prevatt,
T. M. Mickler,	William B. Harvey,
Joseph M. Hull,	James A. McQueen,
Stephen Roberts,	A. J. Smiley,
Samuel B. McLin,	J. B. Mickler,
Josiah T. Baisden,	John U. Wise,
Arch. Carraway,	James Langston,
L. K. Mickler,	W. W. McCall,
James W. Pearce,	J. B. Wood,
Levin Johnson,	Wm. P. Roberts,
Miles Roberts,	Jesse S. Wood,
John A. Jones,	James H. Hill,
H. R. Alford,	Robert Wilkerson,
George B. Smithson,	W. J. Anderson,
William H. Rosseau,	Wm. B. Connelly,
John R. Spears,	G. McG. Bredalbin,
H. Mattair,	H. G. Townsend,
Henry F. Smith,	M. Whit Smith,
Henry J. Stewart,	T. J. Greene,
William H. Niblack,	Dempsey Phillips,
David Walker,	Wm. Alford,
D. T. Tresvant,	William Harrall,
Thomas C. Strange,	George C. Gibbs.

CONCORDIA LODGE, No. 28.—GADSDEN COUNTY.

MEMBERS :

A. Cromartie, *Past Master*,
 N. S. Scott,
 Thomas Scott,
 D. M. Hinson,
 H. S. Reeves,
 R. VanBrunt, *Past Master*,
 W. C. Henowy,
 N. R. Hand,
 O. E. Anders,
 Abner Chester,
 D. Maxwell,
 C. Bannerman,
 G. W. Rich,
 A. J. Miller,
 A. Bowen,
 G. F. Hand,
 R. K. Call, *Past Grand Master*,
 James Thomas,
 R. Roberts,
 James Harrison,
 Matthew Harrison,
 H. W. Herring,
 William Chester,
 J. Rawles,
 J. Williams,
 Robert Williams,
 W. B. Kemp,
 A. Alderman,
 D. Calhoun,
 Wiley Shelfer,
 M. Hancock,
 W. C. Sweet,
 H. M. Shelfer,
 S. W. McElvy,
 W. M. Friarson,
 J. W. Reeves,
 R. K. Long,
 Isaac Alderman,

Stephen Chester,
 J. Anders,
 W. T. Brown,
 J. S. Harvin,
 George Wright,
 D. A. Long,
 J. A. Hall,
 J. B. Rich,
 E. Stephens,
 B. Hinson,
 J. Barfield,
 N. T. Butler,
 A. Long,
 J. B. Nelson,
 E. Wilcox,
 A. J. Smith,
 P. A. McGriff,
 William Barrineau,
 Robert Daniels,
 John M. Owens,
 W. B. Smith,
 Zabud Fletcher,
 Wm. Shelfer,
 T. N. Hendley,
 E. E. Long,
 J. B. Timmons,
 J. Ogilvie,
 T. P. Lenoir,
 J. M. Mims,
 G. W. Donalson,
 W. A. Lassiter,
 C. W. Butler,
 H. Culpepper,
 J. K. Kemp,
 D. Young,
 H. W. Van,
 M. M. Johnson,
 J. W. F. Byrd.

MICANOPY LODGE, No. 29.—MICANOPY.

MEMBERS :

W. H. Johnson,
 Alexander McDonnell,
 A. H. Perry,
 C. Rain,
 G. B. Payne,

J. P. Hawkins,
 F. S. Dupois,
 Lewis G. Pyles,
 John McFall,
 Rev. E. L. King,

M. S. Perry,
 James G. Cameron,
 E. J. Ramsey,
 G. Leitner,
 H. W. Hennis,
 Henry Colden,
 J. J. Banknight,
 James T. Thomas,
 Peter Sparkman,
 J. G. Dampier,
 W. Ramsey,
 J. P. Garrison,
 J. Gammage,
 D. C. Hart,
 F. B. Burton,
 T. P. Kelly,
 J. S. Rhodes,
 John Goodnight,
 Samuel Lowman,
 J. G. Polhill,
 G. W. Means,
 C. W. Merry,

W. K. Banknight,
 A. G. Roberts,
 John M. Payne,
 James A. Stewart,
 John Lewis,
 W. B. Lewis,
 John B. Miller,
 J. T. Jolly,
 J. L. Binnicker,
 Rev. John Penny,
 F. E. Carn,
 J. M. Croxton,
 Henry Wurzburg,
 D. S. Dupree,
 R. K. Limbough,
 J. A. Prestor,
 Simon Einstien,
 S. H. Prescott,
 J. J. Mickle,
 H. E. Pardee,
 Alexander Coulter,
 Rev. J. C. Ley.

SUWANEE LODGE, No. 30.—SUWANEE SHOALS.

OFFICERS :

A. S. Goodbread, *Worshipful Master*,
 J. T. Goodbread, *Senior Warden*,
 P. C. Cone, *Junior Warden*,
 Phillip Goodbread, *Secretary*,
 J. J. Beal, *Treasurer*,

Levi Lee, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. R. Sanderlin, *Junior Deacon*,
 E. Smith, }
 C. Sistrunk, } *Stewards*,
 G. W. S. Waldron, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

John Peoples,
 W. H. Cone, *Past Master*,
 J. B. Cone,
 J. W. Jones,
 W. A. Sheffield,
 S. Robinson,
 Turner Jackson,
 W. A. Shands,
 W. Pennington,
 J. G. Smith,
 Barnabus Cheshire,
 M. J. Bryan,
 J. O. C. Jones,
 James Long,
 George Combs,
 P. Delyneki,

John Bryan,
 W. Crews,
 H. Mattox,
 C. Parrish,
 F. Register,
 J. L. Crews,
 T. J. Richardson,
 J. J. North,
 G. A. Knight,
 W. Long,
 C. F. Cone, *Past Master*,
 L. J. Hodges,
 James Adams,
 Robert Brown, *Past Master*,
 T. Ivey, Jr.

MANATEE LODGE, No. 31.—MANATEE.

OFFICERS :

E. Glazier, *Worshipful Master*,
 G. H. Wyatt, *Senior Warden*,
 H. Peterson, *Junior Warden*,
 Josiah Gates, *Treasurer*,

W. H. Wyatt, *Secretary*,
 C. Peterson, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. L. McLean, *Junior Deacon*,
 L. P. Johnson, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

James Cunliffe,
 Robert Gamble,

Rev. F. Branch.

JEFFERSON LODGE, No. 33.—WAUKEENA.

OFFICERS :

G. M. Houston, *Worshipful Master*,
 J. M. Kilpatrick, *Senior Warden*,
 W. H. Arendell, *Junior Warden*,
 Abner Withington, *Senior Deacon*,

C. W. Rutland, *Junior Deacon*,
 W. H. DeWitt, *Treasurer*,
 R. R. Scott, *Secretary*,
 J. W. DeWitt, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

Ephraim Sanders,
 R. R. Lang,
 J. A. Townsend,
 W. H. Townsend,
 A. S. Moffat,
 J. A. Edwards,
 W. S. Murphy,
 Z. G. Wheeler,
 W. Patterson,
 J. A. T. Weston,
 E. P. Barrington,

J. F. Williams,
 John Wooten, Jr.,
 T. Clifford,
 F. N. Carlile,
 W. C. Thomas,
 S. J. Houston,
 A. Peeler,
 B. S. Buzbee,
 R. R. Kinchen,
 J. M. Earnest,
 A. K. Edwards.

PALATKA LODGE, No. 34.—PALATKA.

OFFICERS :

Calvin Gillis, *Worshipful Master*,
 H. A. Gray, *Senior Warden*,
 R. O. Lewis, *Junior Warden*,
 J. Gliniski, *Secretary*,
 J. C. McMillan, *Treasurer*,

R. T. Boyd, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. B. Crown, *Junior Deacon*,
 J. W. Thomas, *Chaplain*,
 G. P. T. Anderson, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

J. H. Verdier, *Past Master*,
 J. Burt,
 Lewis Gardner,
 K. R. Duke,

W. Rogers,
 N. J. Trowell,
 J. R. Dyall,
 W. W. Dalton.

ORANGE LODGE, No. 36.—BARNHART'S MILLS, ORANGE CO.

OFFICERS :

J. G. Speer, *Worshipful Master*,
P. Buchan, *Senior Warden*,
J. L. Stewart, *Junior Warden*,
J. C. Stewart, *Secretary*,

W. S. Delk, *Treasurer*,
P. B. Stewart, *Senior Deacon*,
Amos Newton, *Junior Deacon*,
R. Barnheart, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

A. Ginn,
C. Lassiter,
T. Hughey,
D. A. Newton,
T. H. Harris,
J. R. Worthington,
M. A. Stewart,
G. M. Hughey,
E. Pharr,
H. J. Kirby,

S. W. Stewart,
O. P. Lancaster,
O. Clark,
D. Alderman,
J. L. Hawthorn,
M. Jernigan,
Elijah Watson,
E. H. Osteen,
J. M. Jackson.

ORIENT LODGE, No. 37.—JASPER.

OFFICERS :

H. J. Stewart, *Worshipful Master*,
J. M. Clardy, *Senior Warden*,
R. R. Hester, *Junior Warden*,
T. J. Zipperer, *Treasurer*,

J. W. Culpepper, *Secretary*,
J. Q. Stewart, *Senior Deacon*,
B. Brown, *Junior Deacon*,
J. R. Bass, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

S. S. Smith, *Past Master*,
J. C. Hately,
J. E. Fletcher,
John Frink,
J. R. Haddock,
J. S. Hackney,
I. M. Stewart,
John Pierson,
J. N. Hendry,
John Hendry,
G. W. Hawkins,
C. J. Jenkins,

J. L. Brooks,
N. Smith,
Rev. W. K. Turner,
J. W. Hollomon,
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J. W. Umsted,
W. J. J. Duncan,
T. G. Harvey,
J. R. Dickson,
F. Register,
H. B. Hill,

CHIPOLA LODGE, No. 38.—JACKSON COUNTY.

OFFICERS :

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 Samuel J. Erwin, *Senior Warden*,
 James O. Lewis, *Junior Warden*,
 Wm. H. Harvey, *Treasurer*,

J. M. F. Erwin, *Secretary*,
 Andrew Scott, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. W. Edwards, *Junior Deacon*,
 John P. King, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

Henry Applewhite,
 Jas. L. G. Baker, *Past Master*,
 Richard Bennet,
 David Blackshear,
 Wm. Brunson,
 M. A. Butler,
 Thomas R. Collins,
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 J. B. Cunningham,
 Rev. J. M. Cambell,
 Samuel Gammons,
 Franklin Hart,
 H. K. Garret,
 C. M. Hartsfield,
 F. H. G. Long,

Wm. M. Marlin,
 Wm. McNeely,
 Wm. E. A. Mosely,
 Green Speight,
 Hillory Sewell,
 Andrew J. Sims,
 Asbury Thompson,
 J. B. Williams,
 S. B. Williford,
 Nathan Walford,
 Rev. J. H. Wombwell,
 Wm. E. Mears,
 F. A. Robinson,
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IRA CARPENTER LODGE, No. 39.—1858.*

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 H. A. Bright,
 John W. Brett,
 Ezekiel Watford,
 H. A. Blount,
 James H. Tindall,
 M. E. Barnett,
 John Blount,
 L. L. Newson,
 A. Barnett,
 H. Zibart,
 John Register,

Lafayette McClung,
 James Hancock,
 A. J. Stephens,
 Winford Spence,
 James Hall,
 Sovereign Johnson,
 R. A. K. McDonald,
 Elias B. Crim,
 G. A. Mathews,
 H. B. Grace,
 James C. Collier,
 G. L. Casey.

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 G. W. Underwood, *Senior Warden*,
 J. J. White, *Junior Warden*,
 H. H. Wells, *Treasurer*,

A. D. Gillis, *Secretary*,
 A. McMillan, *Senior Deacon*,
 T. L. Powell, *Junior Deacon*,
 John Nelson, *Tyler*.

* Has since surrendered its warrant.—*Compiler*.

MEMBERS :

A. D. McKinnon, *Past Master*,
 John L. McKinnon,
 Enoch John,
 S. Evans,
 J. B. Pearson,
 J. C. B. McKithin,
 L. H. Lanier,
 N. D. McKinnon,
 J. Wood, *Past Master*,

G. F. Gainer,
 John Newton,
 W. W. Poe,
 H. C. Bragg,
 W. P. L. Horne,
 B. B. Brown,
 Egbert Clineman,
 Amos Lassiter,
 S. Davis.

GAINESVILLE LODGE, No. 41.—GAINESVILLE.

OFFICERS :

T. J. Myers, *Worshipful Master*,
 W. S. Babcock, *Senior Warden*,
 H. H. Colson, *Junior Warden*,
 L. D. Montgomery, *Secretary*,
 T. Ingram, *Treasurer*,

L. Cheeves, *Senior Deacon*,
 J. L. Cameron, *Junior Deacon*,
 J. T. Thomas, *Steward*,
 L. Alexander, *Tyler*.

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 J. E. Thompson,
 J. H. Lewis, .
 W. May,
 T. Boulware,
 W. W. Jervis,
 B. P. Boulware,
 O. P. Lewis,
 J. G. Jenkins,
 S. E. Babcock,
 C. A. Ramsy,
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 W. D. Clark,

A. Matheson,
 D. H. Bennet,
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 J. W. Little,
 W. C. D. Rainey,
 D. H. Remhart,
 J. Vaughn,
 J. C. Pelote,
 D. Black,
 P. McDonald,
 A. A. Maulain,
 T. W. McCall.

MOSELY HALL LODGE, No. 43.—MOSELY HALL.

MEMBERS :

J. A. Newman, *Past Master*,
 J. W. Anderson,
 W. H. Sever,
 C. C. O'Neal,
 J. G. Plaut,
 T. L. Brown,
 R. M. Witherspoon, *Past Master*,
 Wm. McMullen,
 E. Wimburn,
 A. J. Dozier,
 O. E. Sullivan,
 Wm. Henderson,
 S. C. Craft,
 T. C. McKaine,
 J. W. Carlton,

J. J. Hampton,
 B. W. Hampton,
 P. T. McGriff,¹
 H. Henderson,
 W. M. Brown,
 D. W. Sanders,
 J. O. Carroll,
 D. H. Bryant,
 W. W. Wilder,
 W. J. Cameron,
 E. H. McDonal,
 D. C. Barker,
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H. Y. Hampton,
W. W. Townsend,
Allen Oquinn,
Wm. Reid,
Rev. P. H. McCook,
W. G. Murphy,

T. J. Porter,
T. J. Shaw,
J. E. Flynn,
J. M. Courtney,
G. Waller,
Rev. J. T. Houston,
H. Ezell,
L. T. Houston,
W. Mazingo,

MICCOSUKIE LODGE, No. 44.—MICCOSUKIE.

MEMBERS :

J. R. Cannon,
G. E. Dennis,
T. K. Leonard,
J. M. Joyner,
J. H. M. Gardner,
G. W. Herring,
M. T. Perryman,
A. J. Miller,
R. M. Burney,
T. J. Teat,

J. A. Smith,
W. L. Dennis,
R. B. Smith,
J. A. Brooks,
J. T. Holt,
Jethro Bradley,
E. K. Devane,
D. M. Lafitte,
N. H. Teat,
M. A. Jeffcoat.

TRUE BROTHERHOOD LODGE, No. 45.—FLEMINGTON P. O., MARION CO.

MEMBERS :

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A. B. Rou,
J. A. Priestler,
S. F. Rou,
B. R. Law,
B. Y. H. Thomas,
W. Ransom,
W. M. McCullough,
W. A. Owens,
W. A. Cobb,
J. G. Harrison,
R. K. Pickett,
S. J. Standley,
S. G. Miller,
W. D. Branch,
S. H. Owens,

D. S. Dupuis,
R. C. Sharp,
J. N. Smith, *Past Master*,
J. Jackson,
J. Stewart,
J. T. Hopkins,
G. Turkett,
A. G. Gordon,
J. W. Darby,
P. McCormick, *Past Master*,
O. B. Irvine,
J. B. Owens, *Past Master*,
W. H. McCardle,
J. M. Payne,
W. T. Means.

PROVIDENCE LODGE.—PROVIDENCE.

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W. C. Newbern, *Junior Warden*,
J. Sasser, *Treasurer*,

A. J. Prevatt, *Secretary*,
W. J. Ridout, *Senior Deacon*,
J. Abott, *Junior Deacon*,
R. H. Holloway, *Tyler*.

MEMBERS :

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N. A. Jammieson,	John H. Ellis,
B. J. Brown,	R. C. Martin,
J. Knight,	J. S. Coon,
R. L. Holloway,	R. K. C. Weeks,
T. F. Jones,	A. J. Weeks,
Benjamin Moody,	D. Jordan,
James E. Harrison,	J. H. Weeks,
J. B. Carlton,	O. H. Tilman,
R. Thomas,	J. W. Buling,
Allen Thomas,	C. F. Martin,
A. Liddon,	S. S. Weeks,
E. R. Ives, <i>Deputy Grand Master</i> ,	J. Truluck,
J. W. Cathey,	A. H. Harrison,
D. T. Trezvant,	H. F. York,
John Lites,	R. W. Jones,
G. M. Whetstone,	J. Simmons.

MACKEY LODGE, No. 39.—LOWER MINERAL SPRINGS

MEMBERS :

C. L. Carruth,	B. J. Hackney,
W. W. Snell,	D. J. S. Hackney,
A. Caraway,	D. P. Snell,
Rev. J. Caraway,	E. B. Coates,
J. O. C. Jones,	A. J. Smiley,

AMELIA LODGE, No. —FERNANDINA.

MEMBERS :

G. W. Call,	D. Callahan,
A. K. Patton,	H. Timanus,
D. P. Beatty,	E. W. Perry,
James W. Spratt,	J. Rasky,
T. D. Hawkins,	A. D. Kinsman,
G. R. Foster,	Robert Harrison,
Lewis Gardner,	James A. Mason,
W. H. Holland,	C. O. Bernard.

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OFFICERS :

R. Brown, Sr., <i>Worshipful Master</i> ,	J. L. Hodge, <i>Senior Deacon</i> ,
J. C. Carlile, <i>Senior Warden</i> ,	E. M. Smith, <i>Junior Deacon</i> ,
S. E. Zipperer, <i>Junior Warden</i> ,	J. G. Smith, <i>Steward</i> ,
Robert Thomas, <i>Secretary</i> ,	Jno. Williams, <i>Tyler</i> .
Turner Jackson, <i>Treasurer</i> ,	

MEMBERS :

B. Cheshire,	John Demera,
Calvin Sistrunk,	S. J. Hodges,
James Adams,	J. F. Jackson,
E. G. Rogerson,	A. W. Knight,
John Gay,	P. E. Lowe,
W. A. Shands,	J. W. Sheffield,
W. M. Combs,	G. A. Knight.
E. M. Lee,	

FAC SIMILE REPRESENTATION
OF THE
PAST GRAND MASTER'S JEWEL
PRESENTED TO
M. W. BROTHER BROWN.*

THE following engravings give an excellent representation of the obverse and reverse of the Jewel presented to Brother THOMAS BROWN, mentioned on page 631. Whilst we most heartily concur in the views of the committee, awarding all honor to our distinguished Brother—whose unremitting devotion to the interests of Masonry in Florida for the past thirty years, whose many private virtues, hospitality and benevolence, and whose masterly reports as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of his Grand Lodge, have endeared him to the Fraternity everywhere—we could wish that this golden token of the love of his Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Florida had been committed to the hands of an artist of greater skill and taste than the Jewel itself manifests. It is the esteem and affection, of which it is the token, that render it valuable, and never, in the whole history of Freemasonry, was an honor conferred more truly merited than this. Cicero has well and truly said—*Honus est premium VIRTUTIS*. The virtues of Brother BROWN shall remain imperishable as the pages of Masonic History.



* NOTE.—It is due to Brother BROWN to state that, although he is the historian who prepared the matter for this work, he had not seen or known of this notice until it appeared in the bound book.—COMPILER.

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